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REPORT

ON THE

ADMINISTRATION

OF THE

MADRAS PRESIDENCY

FOR THE YEAR

1927-28

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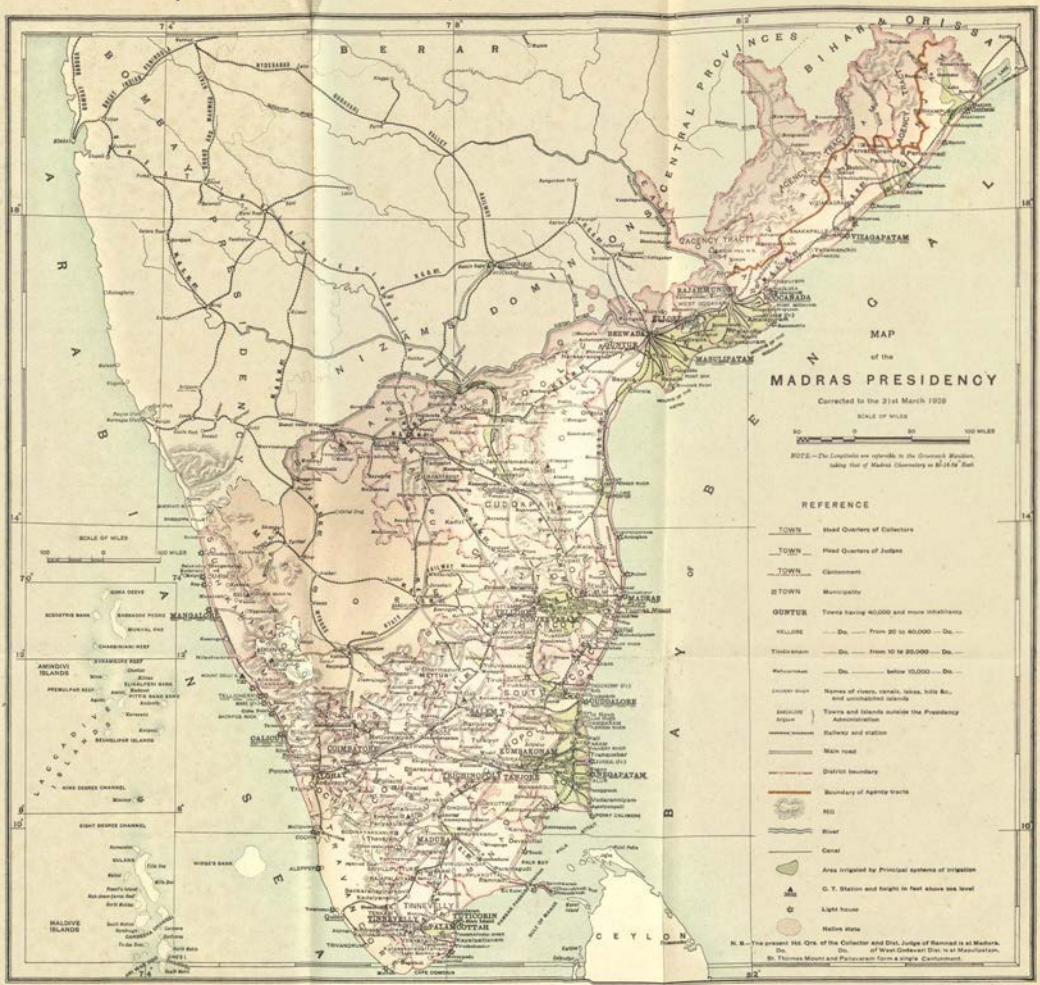

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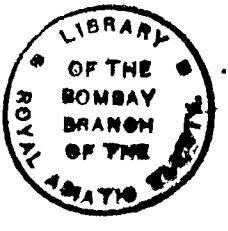

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PREFATORY NOTE

IN compliance with the orders of the Government of India, Part I of this publication—the "General Summary"—deals with the calendar year 1928, and Part II—the main report—with the official year 1927–28 except where it is specifically stated otherwise.

PART I

GENERAL SUMMARY

General

1. On the whole, the year 1928 was one of comparative economic prosperity, and partly as a result of this there was a marked decrease in the volume of grave crime. The south-west monsoon was not disappointing, except for a shortage in September, while the north-east monsoon gave good rains throughout the Presidency; consequently, crops were fair, the purchasing power of the masses improved, trade was brisk and exports and imports increased in volume. There was, however, a serious loss of life and property and a breakdown of communications in Vizagapatam and East Gōdāvari owing to two floods of considerable magnitude; prompt steps were taken to render timely aid and to repair the railway, the roads and irrigation sources.

The year was marked by a general expansion of Government activities in almost all directions. The pearl fisheries were the most successful since 1801. The resources of the department of Agriculture were considerably strained in supplying the demands of eager ryots. The Report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture was published during the year and its recommendations are under the consideration of Government. There was a further remarkable spread of the co-operative movement throughout the Presidency. Consequent on the remission of the provincial contribution to the Government of India, the expenditure in 1927–28 was allowed to exceed that

of the previous year by Rs. 80 lakhs, the bulk of this increase occurring under the three important heads of Education, Civil Works and Medical. Still, the year 1928–29 is expected to close with a surplus of about Rs. 70 lakhs.

The Statutory Commission provided several topics for keen discussion and controversy in political circles. Attempts made to boycott the Statutory Commission have had little practical result except in the disturbance which occurred in Madras on February 3rd, the day on which the Commission landed at Bombay for the first time.

Labour on the whole was quiet during the year except for a serious strike on the South Indian Railway. During the strike, the railway lines were tampered with at several places, and there were some serious accidents and considerable loss of life and property. There is reason to believe that in their decision to adopt a policy of direct action the strikers were influenced by communist ideas preached by political agitators.

M.R.Ry. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar Avargal and Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar Avargal resigned their appointments as Ministers on the 8th March 1928. The Hon'ble Mr. S. Muthiah Mudaliyar and the Hon'ble Mr. M. R. Seturatnam Ayyar were appointed as Ministers in their places. Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., resigned his office as Member of the Executive Council with effect from the afternoon of the 10th March 1928. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., held the office temporarily till the 12th of March and Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., acted from the 13th March to the 25th April 1928. On the afternoon of the 25th April 1928, the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar assumed his

office as Member of the Executive Council. The Hon'ble Sir Norman Marjoribanks, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., was appointed as Vice-President of the Executive Council from the 11th March 1928.

2. The year commenced with the conclusion of the various conferences held in conjunction with the 42nd Indian National Congress. The All-India Republican Conference and the Youth Conference were the most important. The latter resulted in the formation of a Young India Party, which, in the words of one of the founders, was to be the most revolutionary party in India. Its organizers did considerable propaganda for the boycott of the Statutory Commission, but the party does not appear to have developed further. **Political**

The agitation for the boycott of the Statutory Commission and arrangements for the hartal to be held on their arrival in India occupied the energies of prominent local Congressmen in the early weeks of the year. Aided by the rowdy elements of Georgetown and assisted by a number of unruly boys, hartal of a kind was secured on February 3rd, the day on which the Commission landed at Bombay. In the neighbourhood of the High Court the crowd became uncontrolled and considerable disorder ensued, so that the police were compelled to resort to force in their attempt to keep the peace and troops were called out. Spasmodic hooliganism continued throughout the day and a few Europeans and others were molested. The Commission's visit to Madras on 26th February passed off without incident. Special precautionary measures were taken by the police. The return of a prominent leader from Delhi was the occasion of a further attempt to push the boycott, but the attempt was considerably damped by the advent

of the hot weather and the indifference and apathy of the general public.

On the 25th January, a resolution expressing disapproval of the appointment of the Statutory Commission was passed in the Madras Legislative Council and was greeted with much satisfaction in Swarajist circles.

On the 2nd March 1928, a motion of noconfidence in the Chief Minister, who stood for co-operation with the Statutory Commission, was moved by the leader of the Opposition. As less than 40 members stood in support of the motion, the member did not have the leave of the House to make his motion. On the 13th March, the two Ministers who had resigned made personal statements to the house in explanation of their resignations. Among other things, they expressed themselves in favour of the boycott of the Commission.

Strenuous efforts were made by the Congress Party in September to engineer a defeat of the motion in the Legislative Council for the appointment of a Joint Committee to co-operate with the Commission. The party failed in its attempt to secure a ruling that the motion was out of order and was defeated also on a dilatory motion and then decided to "walk out", with the result that the motion was carried without a division.

The publication of the Report of the Committee appointed by the All-Parties Conference roused considerable interest and the opinion of Congress members in general was in favour of it. The extremist section of the Congress deprecated the demand for dominion status and declared that total independence alone would satisfy it. The result was a cleavage in the Congress camp. At

the end of the year interest was centred on the independence *versus* dominion status dispute.

Unrest on the South Indian Railway which threatened a strike towards the end of 1927, was apparent early in the year under review. Two communists from Madras and Calcutta attended the Railway Union Conference at Negapatam in January. It soon became apparent that the delegates were more inclined to follow the lead of those who advocated direct action rather than adopt the advice of the more moderate element. Following the inevitable lock-out which followed the satyagraha at the end of June, numerous bodies of workmen were sent out all over the line to enlist public sympathy and active support of the other branches of the Railway staff. The two communists were among those who made speeches at the centres of disturbance and engaged in propaganda work urging the Railway men to strike work. A policy of temporization on the part of the Railway authorities delayed the actual declaration for a time, but, eventually the strike was declared for and commenced on the midnight of 19th July 1928. A majority of the running staff remained loyal and a skeleton service was maintained. Contrary to expectations, sabotage was freely indulged in and several serious accidents took place which served to alienate the sympathy of the general public towards the strikers. The arrest of the two communists followed by that of other prominent agitators resulted in the rapid collapse of the strike.

Apart from the strike on the South Indian Railway, labour on the whole was quiet during the year.

The Bardoli satyagraha occupied the attention of Congressmen for a time, but little enthusiasm was aroused and only limited financial support was obtained for the satyagrahis.

The sudden death of Lala Lajpat Rai, shortly after the scuffle at Lahore, was made the occasion of numerous meetings at which speakers sought to connect the alleged assault with Lajpat Rai's death.

The Raja of Panagal, the leader of the Justice Party, died on the 10th December. By his death, the political world has lost a commanding personality and the Justice Party a sagacious leader whom it will be difficult to replace. Condolence meetings on his death were held throughout the Presidency.

Economic

3. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast early in June and continued to be satisfactory until August. During September, rainfall was generally defective except in the Circars and parts of the Carnatic, the shortage being most keenly felt in the South and parts of the Central districts. There was a partial failure of the first paddy crop in the Tinnevelly district. On the whole, however, the monsoon was generally fair.

The north-east monsoon commenced about the middle of October and gave good rains throughout the Presidency, so that the situation in the Southern and Central districts was greatly improved. Except in the Carnatic and the Central and Southern districts, there was very little rain after the middle of November. The outlook on the whole appears to be satisfactory.

There were floods during the year in the districts of West Gōdāvari, East Gōdāvari and Vizagapatam. The flood in the West Gōdāvari district was of

small magnitude and caused little damage to life or property ; but the floods in the East Gōdāvari and Vizagapatam districts were far more serious. Torrential rains fell for three days from the 20th of October over an area extending from Vizagapatam to Cocanada. Several streams were in high flood and caused extensive damage to houses, roads, railways and irrigation works. Tuni and Anakapalle were the towns to suffer most. Thirty-five lives were lost, including those of three railway officers. Numerous heads of cattle were drowned and over 200 irrigation sources damaged. The damage to crops is not likely to be as serious as was anticipated. Help in rebuilding fallen houses was immediately rendered from money grants placed by Government at the disposal of the district staffs. The work of repairing the railway, the roads and irrigation sources was taken up at once.

Reclamation of areas in the Trichinopoly and Tanjore districts, sanded up during the floods of 1924, was almost completed. Government sanctioned the construction of a high-level channel to irrigate the sanded lands of Tanjore. The estimate for a similar channel in Trichinopoly is under consideration.

Legislative Council

4. The Madras Legislative Council sat on thirty-five days during the year, of which twenty-six were allotted to official and nine to non-official business. The official Bills passed during the year were—

A Bill to amend the Indian Fisheries Act, 1897, in its application to the Presidency of Madras,

A Bill to validate certain marriages solemnized by certain members of the American Baptist Telugu Mission, Nellore district,

A Bill to amend the Madras Children Act,

A Bill to amend the Madras State Aid to Industries Act, 1922, and

The Annamalai University Bill.

The Indian Fisheries Amendment Act empowers the local Government to regulate methods of fishing, to prevent fishing in public waters by poachers and to recover all fishery rentals and fishing licence fees as arrears of land revenue. The Madras Christian Marriages Validation Act validates marriages solemnized, certificates granted and other acts done under the Indian Christian Marriage Act by persons named in the Act during the interval between the revocation of their licences and the grant of fresh ones to them. The Madras Children (Amendment) Act provides for the transfer of a child from a junior certified school to a senior certified school for reasons other than those mentioned in the original Act and the transfer of youthful offenders over 16 years of age from a senior certified school to a Borstal School. The Madras State Aid to Industries (Amendment) Act is intended to assist the development of cottage and other small-scale industries. The Annamalai University Act creates a teaching and residential university at Chidambaram.

The non-official Bills that were passed in the Council during the year were—

The Jaina Succession Bill,

A Bill to amend the Mappilla Wills Act, and

A Bill to declare the Jaggampeta A and D Estates impartible.

The Jaina Succession Act provides for the application of the Mitakshara law of inheritance, as obtaining in the Presidency of Madras, to the Jains governed by the Aliyasanthana law of

inheritance and also legalizes, for the purpose of inheritance, customary marriages recognized by the community. The Act, however, is applicable only to separate and self-acquired property. The Mappilla Wills Act applies the principles of Muhammadan law to wills of Mappillas governed by the Marumakkatayam or the Aliyasanthana law of inheritance. The Jaggampeta A and D Estates Impartible Estates Act declares these two estates impartible.

Thirty-two notices of Bills were received from non-official members during the year.

The number of resolutions tabled during the year (excluding those for adjournment or on the budget) was 1,389, or about two-thirds of the number in the previous year. Of these, thirty-five were actually discussed. In September 1928, when a new session commenced, the Council adopted a motion for the election of seven representatives for the purpose of jointly conferring with the Indian Statutory Commission. In March 1928, a motion of "no confidence" in the Chief Minister was moved, but the motion failed to receive sufficient support and the member did not have the leave of the House to make his motion. Soon after this motion, another to reduce the allotment for the salary of the Minister was moved and an attempt was made to express want of confidence in the Ministry. This motion was defeated by a large majority.

There were 1,788 motions on the budget during the year. No budget allotments were certified by His Excellency the Governor.

Thirteen adjournment motions were moved to "discuss definite matters of urgent public importance" of which two were disallowed by the President of the Council, three were carried, two

withdrawn after the motion was made, one talked out, and five not moved.

There was a decrease in the number of questions by non-official members. The number of questions received was 2,037. Of the 1,817 questions admitted, 1,414 were answered in Council, 1,174 of them being starred questions.

Police

5. The year 1928 was noticeable for a decrease in the volume of grave crime. Dacoities, robberies, housebreakings, thefts and thefts of cattle all showed a decrease in number ranging from 7 per cent in the case of thefts to 30 per cent in the case of dacoities. The decrease in crime can be attributed to economic prosperity following on timely rains and to better and more systematic police work both in patrolling and in the checking of bad characters. Detection showed marked improvement.

On the occasion of the Kumbabhishekam ceremony in a temple at Attangudi in Rāmnād district in April last, a Marava accidentally fell at the entrance of the feeding shed and was trampled upon. His enraged caste men beat the constables on duty and injured eleven of them. One constable, who was severely injured, ran for his life chased by the unruly mob. He fell into a tank and was stoned to death. Thirty-seven of the rioters were charged and the case is pending trial.

The workshops strike on the South Indian Railway began on the 29th June 1928 and was followed by a general strike in July. During the strike, the railway lines had to be guarded in almost all the southern districts. The Kallars of Madura and Rāmnād volunteered their services and were employed by the South Indian Railway in Tinnevelly and other places. The strain on the police

was heavy both before and after the strike. They discharged their duties in an efficient and creditable manner. Mobs had to be fired on at Tuticorin and Māyavaram. Normal conditions were resumed in August and the ringleaders are now under trial.

The King's Police Medal was awarded to one officer and Indian titles were conferred on four officers.

Three assistant district superintendents of police, one Indian and two Europeans, were appointed in the year. Two inspectors and ninety sub-inspectors were recruited and sent for training to the Provincial Police Training School.

Rewards were freely granted, on a scale more liberal than hitherto, both to the police and to private individuals. The Government sanctioned a large reward to certain police officers and private individuals for valuable services rendered in capturing certain habitual criminals in the Malabar district. There was an improvement in the co-operation of the public with the police.

In the Madras City Police, the measures for the control of traffic were reorganized in the course of the year and yielded good results, especially in reducing the number of street accidents. Old and unfit buses were removed from the road; seating accommodation was adjusted to the comfort and convenience of passengers; provision was made for the better control of bus owners and drivers and for due regulation of bus traffic at stopping places and other congested areas. The arrangements for the prosecution of traffic offences were revised. A scheme for the reorganization of the City Police force was submitted to Government during the year and is now under consideration.

Criminal justice

6. There was no noticeable change in the volume of ordinary crime during the year.

A deplorable case of social tyranny was reported from the South Arcot district. An Ādi-Drāvida farm servant had committed a petty theft of paddy. The aggrieved parties—caste Hindus—had him taken in procession through the village with the stolen bundle on his head and a drum on his back after beating him so severely that he succumbed a few days later to his injuries.

In July, the strike on the South Indian Railway affected particularly Madras, Erode, Podanur, Madura, Tanjore, Palamcottah and Trichinopoly, and resulted in rioting and extensive damage to railway property.

Political offences were on the whole conspicuous by their absence. But the arrival of the Statutory Commission in India was signalized by a certain amount of disorder in Madras. Influenced by the boycott propaganda, mobs collected and got out of hand. Considerable damage was caused but was restricted to the Georgetown area. In order to gain command of the situation and disperse the mob, the police were compelled to open fire. Two men were killed.

Civil justice

7. The year does not present any marked feature either from the point of view of volume or quality of civil litigation. In certain district munsifs' courts the number of original suits instituted fell. This is attributed to the enhancement of the small cause jurisdiction of subordinate judges. The insolvency work of sub-courts showed a tendency to increase, the natural consequence of the vesting of powers of adjudication in sub-judges. The number of land acquisition cases filed continued to increase in West Tanjore

and in the Kurnool district, the former being due to the Cauvery-Mettur project and the latter to the Kurnool-Gadwal Railway extension.

The increase in work in some superior courts, especially in South Malabar, West Tanjore and Tinnevelly, is apparently due to the Hindu Religious Endowments Act.

During the year under report, seven additional sub-judges and eight additional district munsifs were employed. They were all attached to principal courts.

In Madras, the number of cases instituted in the city civil courts continued to increase, whereas the number instituted in the Small Cause Court decreased.

In the High Court, two additional judges continued to work throughout the year. There was a substantial reduction of arrears on the original side. This may be attributed in some degree to the appointment of the Master and the relief so occasioned to the judges sitting on the original side in the matter of chamber work. On the appellate side, there was a distinct fall in the institution of second appeals, Letters Patent appeals and criminal revision petitions.

8. The daily average population of convicts, under-trial prisoners and civil prisoners fell during the year. The number of prison offences decreased. Corporal punishment was resorted to only in exceptional cases requiring stern disciplinary action. The health of the prisoners was in general very satisfactory. The number of admissions to hospital and the number of deaths considerably declined. Pulmonary tuberculosis accounted for forty-two deaths. The new tuberculosis jail, under construction at the Alipuram jail at Bellary, **Prisons**

is expected to be completed by April 1929 and will be of great benefit in the adequate treatment of this disease. No epidemic diseases prevailed in any of the jails during the year.

One hundred and twenty-eight prisoners were conditionally released on the recommendations of the advisory boards. Thirty prisoners were released by the orders of Government on medical grounds.

One thousand five hundred and seventy-two Mappilla prisoners were conditionally released under the premature release scheme. Forty-five State prisoners were released from the jail for detention under police surveillance. In connexion with the scheme for colonization in the Andamans 33 Mappilla and 43 non-Mappilla prisoners were dispatched to the Andamans with twelve members of their families.

Elementary education was provided for all prisoners under thirty years of age and technical instruction was given as far as possible. Special measures were taken for the instruction and recreation of prisoners. Lectures on religious and moral subjects as well as on health and sanitation were given. Magic lantern lectures were also provided and facilities afforded for reading and study. Some prisoners were given special training in first aid and ambulance work and selected men were sent to Lahore to compete in the All-India St. John Ambulance competitions.

The provisions of the Madras Children Act were in force throughout the Presidency. There were six certified schools working at the close of the year. The number dealt with under the Children Act was greater than in the previous year. The various certified schools continued to work

satisfactorily, and the system of training included moral, religious, physical and industrial instruction as well as general education. Considerable improvement was effected in the after-care of discharged pupils and substantial assistance was rendered to a great many pupils on discharge.

The Madras Borstal Schools Act was in operation throughout the year, and adolescent offenders between the ages of 16 and 21 were committed to the Tanjore Borstal School. Owing to the inadequate accommodation in this school, a portion of the District Jail, Palamcottah, was declared as a Borstal school. The daily average of inmates confined in both the institutions was 767·46. The concession of release on licence, hitherto applicable only to Borstal inmates, was extended during the year to adolescents undergoing modified Borstal treatment in the jail. Under the licence scheme, 71 inmates, dealt with under the Borstal Act, were released conditionally for service under private employers. The Borstal Association took upon itself the work of appointing suitable probation officers for securing employment and for looking after the welfare and comforts of inmates conditionally released.

The Central Committee of the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society and many district committees did substantial work during the year. The Government grant to the society was considerably increased.

Registration and companies

9. The itinerating system of registry was introduced as a temporary measure for one year at three centres. The number of separate subordinate registry offices increased by five. The number of documents registered showed an increase of 1·16 per cent over that of the previous year.

The increase is attributed to the stimulus afforded by the reduction of the registration fees and to the investment in land of money received as compensation for the acquisition of land for the Villupuram-Trichinopoly chord line.

The number of new companies registered was almost the same as in the previous year. Only forty-one companies ceased to exist as compared with sixty-one in the previous year. The number of companies working in the Presidency increased from 731 at the commencement of the year to 741 at its close indicating signs of improvement in trade conditions. The largest flotation of the year was that of Messrs. Parry & Co., the well-known Madras firm, which registered itself as a limited company with an authorized capital of Rs. 35 lakhs. The majority of the new flotations were either trading and manufacturing concerns or banking companies. Although no provident insurance societies were registered in the previous year, four societies of this type were registered in the year under review.

Co-operation

10. The Committee on Co-operation, appointed in September 1927, presented their report in January 1928. The recommendations of the Committee are being considered by the Government.

Four more deputy registrars were appointed during the year. Two new sections of assistant registrars were also formed and three assistant registrars were appointed for conducting training classes. The subordinate staff was strengthened by the addition of twenty-one senior inspectors.

One of the outstanding features of the year was the attempt to reduce overdues by improved supervision. There are now federations for all districts except one.

Another feature of the year's working was the institution of regular classes at different centres, under the local federations or under other institutions, to give instruction to the paid staff of co-operative workers as well as departmental inspectors and private candidates.

During the year, audit was made more methodical and is now carried out on a fixed programme arranged by the assistant registrar and communicated to all the societies concerned.

Rule XIV of the rules framed under the Act was amended so as to legalise the transfer of arbitration references to assistant registrars and honorary assistant registrars by deputy registrars. A draft Bill for amending the law relating to co-operation was prepared and submitted to Government.

Although the attention of the department was devoted more to the rectification of dormant societies than to the registration of new societies, there was a further remarkable expansion of the co-operative movement during the year, as many as 1,153 new societies being registered. Matters such as supervision and education received a greater impetus in the year.

The collection of loans due to societies was fairly satisfactory. As regards repayments by primary societies to central banks, there was marked improvement in current interest, while, under principal due, the percentage of arrears increased by about 2 per cent. In the matter of repayments by members to societies, the position was slightly better than in the previous year under both principal and interest. The Central Urban Bank and the district banks enjoyed a successful year. All but two of the

central banks will be in a position to declare dividends at the maximum rate of 9 per cent. Divisible profits of the primary societies, both agricultural and non-agricultural, showed a considerable increase over those of the previous year. The loans advanced by non-credit societies showed an appreciable increase. Labour contract societies were able to secure contracts for Rs. 2·38 lakhs and actually completed work within the year valued at over Rs. 3 lakhs. Although the possibilities of this type of society have been clearly demonstrated in certain areas, they are handicapped to some extent by the powerful competition of private contractors. A loan of Rs. 2,700 was granted by the Government to an irrigation society for the purpose of installing plant and machinery for lifting water. An impetus was given in the year to the formation of co-operative societies for students. Building societies are growing rapidly. More than 1,300 houses were either completed or are under construction. The milk supply societies of the suburbs of Madras formed themselves into an union called the "Madras Milk Supply Union." The Government sanctioned a loan of Rs. 15,000 to the union for the purchase of lorries, milk-cans, and cream separators. There were eighteen land mortgage banks with a paid-up share capital of nearly Rs. 70,000. The proposal to form a central land mortgage bank at Madras is under consideration.

Local boards and municipalities

11. The Karaikudi union in the Rāmnād district was constituted a municipality and Alandur in the Chingleput district was constituted a union during the year. Two union boards were abolished and six union boards were dissolved and directed to be reconstituted during the year.

One municipality was suspended for a period of one year on the ground of incompetence. One district board was dissolved, being found incompetent to discharge its statutory functions.

Trade and ports

12. The aggregate value of the Presidency's trade (foreign and coasting) expanded by Rs. 12·73 crores as compared with 1927. Foreign trade registered an increase of Rs. 13·78 crores, while coasting trade showed a decrease of 1·05 crores. The value of imports rose by Rs. 7·52 crores and was due mainly to larger arrivals of treasure, motor vehicles, rice and paddy, sugar, machinery and mill work, iron and steel, twists and yarn, dyeing and tanning substances, railway plant and rolling stock, yellow metals for sheathing, mineral oils, chemical manures, artificial silk and vegetable products. The large advance in the foreign imports is partly attributable to the stabilization of the rupee exchange and partly to the improved purchasing power of the masses. The increase of over 6·26 crores in export trade resulted from larger despatches of groundnut seeds, tanned hides and skins, castor seeds, raw cotton, rice, tea, raw goat skins and fish manures.

The trade through the port of Madras continued to expand. There was a considerable increase in the total tonnage of goods handled during the year and a corresponding increase in revenue. The port of Tuticorin also had a successful year.

The construction of the dry dock at Tuticorin was completed. The scheme for the improvement of the sanitary condition of the City of Madras by flushing the stagnant waters of the Cooum was carried out by Government during the year, by pumping sea water into the river Cooum at a point near Fort St. George. Improvements at several of

the minor ports were also completed or in progress during the year. The harbour works at Vizagapatam are progressing. The question of handing over the port to the Government of India is under consideration.

The harbour works at Cochin were in progress. Steamers were enabled to enter the inner harbour.

Agriculture

13. The most important event of the year was the publication of the report of the Royal Commission on Agriculture. A preliminary meeting of all Directors of Agriculture and Ministers was held at Simla in October. The recommendations of the Commission are being considered by the Government.

The staff of the Agricultural department was augmented during the year. One gazetted post was sanctioned for the cotton section. Twenty-three posts were added to the upper subordinate cadre and six lower subordinates were promoted to the upper subordinate cadre.

In the Agricultural College, teaching was completely separated from research during the year. Selection of students for admission to the Agricultural College was made by a committee. Forty-one students were selected. The grant of the five scholarships continued during the year. The results of the University examinations were satisfactory. The middle school at Taliparamba continued to work satisfactorily. The opening of three other similar schools is under consideration. The classes for juvenile adult labourers were continued at Coimbatore, Pālūr and Anakāpalle.

The four paddy-breeding stations were engaged as before in the production and trial of improved strains of paddy. An interesting phase of this work was the attempt to produce a strain which

will prove resistant to *piricularia*, a dangerous fungus. Progress was made towards the completion of a survey of the different varieties of paddy to be found in the Presidency. A special study was undertaken in connexion with the food value of rice. Similar breeding work on cotton was carried on. The Cotton Transport Act worked smoothly on the whole in the northern and western areas. But difficulties were experienced in the administration of the Act in the two southern areas, on account of the demand of local traders for the free import of cambodia kapas. Government have decided to permit the free movement of seed without licence. The Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act continued to be in force during the year. There was a steady improvement in the marking of bales. The department found it very difficult to meet the enormous demands upon it by the public for the new and improved varieties of paddy and cotton seed. Every effort was made to supply as much seed as possible. Satisfactory progress was made with the lay-out and buildings of the Anakāpalle Experimental station in connexion with experiments on sugarcane. Work on the evolution of improved strains of dry grains was continued with promising results. The study of coconut, potato, groundnut, betel vine cultivation and experiments in fruit culture continued to prove satisfactory and of economic value. A number of experiments were conducted with different fodder crops.

The Chemistry section completed its survey of the soil in Malabar and the results were published. Manurial investigations were continued, particularly with reference to the problems relating to the conservation of soil moisture, the effect of

manuring on crop and seed and the possibilities of synthetic farmyard manure.

The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act was applied to the cultivation of cambodia cotton, coconut caterpillar and the palm disease in the Circars. There was a slight improvement in the prompt removal of cotton under the provision of this Act, but the general situation still remains far from satisfactory.

The four Government cattle farms continued to work satisfactorily during the year.

The department continued its policy of demonstrating to the ryot in practical form the advantages of using improved appliances and types of seed and of adopting better agricultural processes. Demonstration plots, demonstration areas and other means of propaganda were employed. A bulletin was published during the year dealing in simple language with the manurial problem in general.

Numerous agricultural exhibitions were held during the year. Government have sanctioned the building and fitting up of two exhibition motor lorries which will travel round the country with permanent exhibitions and be able to penetrate to the interior villages. One of these is already being used for demonstration.

Veterinary

14. The activities of the Civil Veterinary department continued to expand. A new circle was formed during the year with headquarters at Vellore and jurisdiction over the districts of Salem, North Arcot, Chittoor and Cuddapah. With a view to enable circle officers to perform more inoculations against rinderpest by the serum-simultaneous method, personal assistants were appointed to relieve the former of some of

their routine work. Two gazetted officers were directly appointed as probationers during the year and posted for training. The strength of the cadre of veterinary assistant surgeons was raised from 230 to 249, but, owing to the paucity of duly qualified hands, there were thirteen vacancies in the cadre at the end of the year.

During the year, there were virulent outbreaks of rinderpest in several parts of the Presidency. The provisions of the Cattle Disease Act were enforced and some of the big cattle fairs in the affected areas were closed with a view to prevent the spread of the disease. A large number of inoculations by the serum-alone method were performed. But attention was specially concentrated on inoculations by the serum-simultaneous method. The number of such inoculations from January to the end of September in the year under review was nearly three times the number performed during the calendar year 1927.

Research work on the treatment of certain animal diseases was continued at the Madras Veterinary College. A depot for the production of rinderpest virus was opened at the college in October for inoculation by the serum-simultaneous method. Thirty-four thousand doses of vaccine were issued in three months. The usual six months' post-graduate class held at the college was attended by three veterinary assistant surgeons from the Federated Malay States and nine from this Presidency. A clinical laboratory was opened at the Madras Veterinary College during the year.

With the object of educating the public in the cause, mode of spread and prevention of the more important livestock diseases prevalent in

this Presidency, arrangements are being made to prepare sets of lantern slides on each subject for demonstration by the officers of the Veterinary department.

Fisheries

15. The sudden break of the north-east monsoon towards the end of the previous year and the cessation of rains thereafter, affected the working of the Fisheries department to some extent. Most of the tanks could not be stocked with fish for want of water, with the result that sales were generally successful only in the case of river fisheries. The pearl fisheries conducted during the year, were the most successful on record since 1801 and realized a net revenue of nearly four lakhs.

Experiments in the fish farms on the breeding of gourami, mullet, catla, etroplus and English carp yielded gratifying results.

Fishing in Malabar was a success at the beginning of the season but suffered later as a result of the disappearance of sardine and mackerel. On the whole, transactions in the fish-curing yards of the Northern Circars were better than in the previous year.

In the early part of the year, the trawler was engaged in a survey of fishing grounds off Manapad and Cape Comorin. The nature of the bottom of the sea has now been chartered over an area of approximately forty thousand square miles. Valuable biological and hydrographical data were also collected and recorded. The trawler was engaged towards the close of the year in continuing the same type of work off Calicut.

Observations on the growth of pearl oysters were made at the Krusadai Island. Investigations into the existence of mother beds of pearl oysters

in deep water beyond the eleven-fathom limit failed to yield encouraging results.

Researches in the migration and breeding habits of sardine and mackerel were continued in the West Hill Biological station.

Two kinds of fish meal were introduced at the Tanur experimental station and were received favourably by customers.

Statistics relating to the landings in 1925–26 of sea fish on the West Coast were tabulated and published as part of a bulletin.

Progress was made on the sociological side. The two "purchase and sale societies" started in the previous year worked with such success that expert opinion advocates the expansion of the system to other societies and areas. Two new co-operative societies were formed on the East Coast during the year.

An important feature of the year was the passing of an Act by the local Government amending the Indian Fisheries Act of 1897.

16. The present area of the State forests is 18,942 square miles. About 118 square miles of forest land were in process of settlement during the year. **Forests**

Of the total area, 3,460 square miles are under panchayat management. Consequent on the handing over of ryots' forests to panchayat management, there has been a substantial reduction in the number of forest divisions, ranges and minor units.

The forest village system of panchayats, formed with a view to secure the co-operation of the cattle-owners in forest conservancy, functioned in three districts during the year. It worked well in two of the districts.

A modified form of the system of early burning, which consists in the burning of grass along the outer boundaries and the internal lines of communication frequented by the public, was tried in several divisions with varying results.

The exploitation operations in the Chenat Nair reserve and the working of the Olavakkot Saw Mill showed a marked improvement during the year under review. There was a substantial increase in the outturn, while the total cost of sawing timber was reduced by nearly 21 per cent by efficient and economic management. The closure of the Russellkonda Saw Mill was necessitated by the difficulty of supplying it with logs at an economic cost. The portable saw mill attached to the Mount Stuart forests worked at Pollachi up to February when it was removed to Topslip. The operations in the Nilambur forests were carried out with satisfactory results.

The Valparai sleeper operations were continued during the year with profitable results. The operations are now being carried on on an extended scale. Sleeper operations were also carried on in other divisions by hand sawing.

A bulletin of forest research, containing the details of the progress made during the financial year 1927-28, has been published. The important and little known problem of regenerating forests after their exploitation is being investigated.

During the year, proposals for the classification of class I forests into remunerative and protective forests were submitted to Government for all the divisions except the Nilgiris and South Coimbatore.

Industries 17. The survey of cottage industries, initiated last year, and the economic survey of two typical

villages in each district of the Presidency are approaching completion. A conference was convened during the year to consider the working of the textile branch and the lines of future improvement.

The Government Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, continued to maintain its policy of supplying the best quality of products at the lowest prices. There was a substantial increase in the production and sale of toilet soaps. Twelve students were admitted for training in soap manufacture for the one year's course, and two students underwent the short course of three months. As it was felt that the Government Industrial Institute, Madras, had demonstrated that good quality inks could be manufactured at competitive prices, Government have decided to transfer the business to private enterprise and tenders have been invited for its purchase. Two qualities of news inks were made and tested in newspaper presses with satisfactory results. An apprentice was instructed in the methods of manufacturing various kinds of inks and in the conduct of practical tests to determine their qualities.

The Industries department continued to engage in numerous activities with a view to developing existing industries. The peripatetic weaving parties continued to give practical demonstrations on improved machinery with satisfactory results. A peripatetic dyeing party was instituted during the year and demonstrated improved methods of dyeing and cloth printing. The progress of the Coonoor Silk Farm is still being retarded by the persistence of fungus disease in the mulberry plantations and proposals for starting a new farm at Mattigiri are being considered. The peripatetic

rearing party continued its work of moth-testing at Kamakeri for the benefit of local rearers and of demonstrating the use of the Italian domestic silk reeling machine. The Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information provided general, statistical and technical information on industrial and commercial subjects to the public and several Government departments and was greatly in demand. A large volume of work was executed during the year by the boring, pumping and other branches of the Engineering department. Experimental work was conducted and tests made on new boring tools and departmental plant, manufactured or repaired at the workshop. The power and hand drills at the disposal of the Boring department were not sufficient to cope with the increasing demands made on them by the public and by Government departments. Three more power drills of the improved type were imported from America during the year, while thirty hand-boring sets were manufactured and assembled. A survey of sub-soil water-supply was conducted in a few villages near Bellary.

In the sphere of industrial education, the department maintained five schools, aided sixty-six private schools with grants and awarded scholarships for the study of technical subjects both abroad and in India. Mention has already been made of the educational work of the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut. The Government Textile Institute continued to provide two courses of instruction, one for supervisors and one for artisans. New appliances were added to the equipment of the Institute. There was no change in the School of Arts and Crafts. The Madras Trades School grew in popularity. A welding class was

introduced for the benefit of the final year mechanical engineering students. Four State technical scholarships were awarded for the study of technical subjects in the United Kingdom. Other scholarships awarded during the year were five, tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, one at the Benares Hindu University, two at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and sixty industrial scholarships at various recognized industrial schools. One scholarship, tenable at the Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad, was instituted and the first scholarship was awarded during the year. A sum of Rs. 6,000 was sanctioned by the Government as a yearly contribution to the Jamshedpur Technical Institute in return for the reservation of three seats for Madras candidates.

During the year, 57 applications for loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were received, of which nine applications of an aggregate value of Rs. 33,500 were sanctioned for disbursement. Two loans aggregating Rs. 21,000, under the State Aid to Industries Act, were disbursed during the year, while an amount of Rs. 1,50,492 was paid to the Imperial Bank of India on behalf of the Carnatic Paper Mills in view of the failure of the latter to clear the overdraft which Government had guaranteed in 1926.

The question of amending the State Aid to Industries Act, with a view to extending its benefits to small scale industries and cottage industries was taken up during the year and a Bill amending the Act was passed by the Madras Legislative Council.

The department of Industries participated in a number of industrial and agricultural

exhibitions held in various parts of the Presidency, where a representative range of soaps, inks and specimens of finished leather were displayed and the working of pumping and boring machinery and improved weaving appliances demonstrated.

Labour

18. Apart from the strike on the South Indian Railway, there was little serious labour unrest during the year.

The workshop strike on the South Indian Railway commenced on the 29th June 1928. The re-organization of the workshop staff and the consequential retrenchment were the main ostensible grievances. The union refused to agree to any compromise in the matter. A policy of "satyagraha" was adopted. The Agent agreed to have the matter settled by an arbitration by Government, but, before this step was taken, the leaders precipitated a general strike in July. As was expected, a majority of the running staff were loyal and a skeleton service was maintained. The arrest of the ring leaders resulted in the rapid collapse of the strike. Normal conditions were resumed in August. (For further particulars of the strike, see paragraph on Political.)

There was a brief strike in Messrs. Parry & Co.'s factory at Rānipēt on the 21st and 22nd January, the ostensible reason being the refusal of the management to grant a half-holiday to the staff. The dispute was quickly settled.

Strikes were threatened in the textile mills at Choolai on various grounds, the chief of which were the insufficiency of the piece-work rate in the spinning department and the decision to make the weavers to work two looms instead of one. When an attempt was made to put a few weavers on to two looms, a strike occurred. The men

returned to work the next morning. A committee was appointed to advise as to the suitable rate for the second loom. Its recommendations led to a substantial increase in the rates paid for the second loom and to the active consideration of other grievances and defects. Several concessions were obtained from the management. With the exception of one or two slight outbreaks of unrest, tranquillity was maintained on the whole in the Choolai mills.

There was practically no trouble throughout the year in the industries in Madras City. The tanning industry in the mufassal, however, was somewhat affected by strikes.

Only five trade unions were registered during the year, bringing the total to eight since the introduction of the Act. One union became defunct during the year. No steps were taken towards the conclusion of collective agreements. No employers' associations were registered.

Claims under the Workmen's Compensation Act continued to increase. The amount of compensation awarded more than doubled during the year.

The Factories Act was successfully administered during the year. A comprehensive scheme of amendments to the notifications, granting exemption from the provisions of the Indian Factories Act regarding hours of work, was submitted during the year and is likely to be soon in operation.

Emigration to Ceylon and Malaya decreased considerably. The decrease is ascribed to the timely rains and the better agricultural and economic conditions in the major part of the recruiting areas. A large number of emigrants returned to India from Ceylon in the latter part

of the year. Under the scheme of assisted emigration which is part of the agreement concluded between the Government of India and the Union Government of South Africa, a large number of repatriates arrived in Madras during the year, and were rendered help as far as possible.

The activities in connexion with the amelioration of the depressed classes continued to expand during the year.

The work of reclamation of Kallars in Madura, Rāmnād and Tanjore districts showed substantial progress. There was a general decrease of crime under all heads except robbery in spite of a freer registration. The number of schools and co-operative societies continued to increase.

Eleven new tribes were notified under the Criminal Tribes Act. The provisions of the Act were applied with consideration so as to avoid undue hardship to members. Restrictions were relaxed in cases where the members were found to be earning their livelihood by honest means or were too old or too weak to commit crime.

Public Works

19. The principal administrative changes during the year 1928 were as follows : An executive engineer was appointed temporarily for one year to supervise the reconstruction of the Cauvery bridge at Trichinopoly. A special division was tentatively formed for the investigation of the Tungabhadra Reservoir project. The special Irrigation division in the Tanjore Circle, temporarily constituted in connexion with the Cauvery irrigation system, was abolished. A new division called " the Central Presidency division " was sanctioned for a period of two years, to carry out the building programme in connexion with the remodelling of the General Hospital at Madras

and building works in the Penitentiary. As a measure of retrenchment, the tank restoration scheme divisions in certain circles were abolished in April 1922, and the executive work connected with the repair of tanks was entrusted to the regular divisions. As this system was not successful, three tank restoration scheme divisions were temporarily sanctioned by Government during the year—one for the Madras Circle, one for the Bezwada Circle and one for the Trichinopoly Circle. The gauging division was abolished at the beginning of the year and a subdivision for the purpose of gauging the Cauvery was sanctioned. The temporary Koraput division was made permanent during the year under review.

In connexion with the Cauvery-Mettur project, an additional electrical engineer was added to the superior staff. Considerable progress was made. A revised estimate amounting to Rs. 737 lakhs (as against Rs. 612 lakhs originally sanctioned) was submitted to the Government of India in July 1928 for obtaining the sanction of the Secretary of State. All the residential quarters, water-supply and drainage schemes at the head works were completed during the year. Fifty per cent of the excavations for the foundations of the dam was finished. The lowering of the Ellis Saddle to form the surplus escape proceeded rapidly and about 66 per cent of the excavation was completed. Very good progress was also made in the canal system of the project.

The Polavaram Island project is approaching completion. Considerable progress was made in the investigation of extensions of irrigation in the Kistna and Gōdāvari deltas.

The Department of Hydro-Electric Development was reorganized during the year and progress made towards the initiation of a programme of hydro-electric development. With a view to give electric supply to Ootacamund and the neighbourhood, the Glen Morgan project was sanctioned and the work immediately put in hand. It is hoped to give a supply to Ootacamund about the middle of 1929.

Finance

20. The year 1926–27 closed with a surplus of Rs. 101·48 lakhs. The closing balance of the Revenue Account was Rs. 199·97 lakhs.

During the year 1927–28, a sum of Rs. 116·46 lakhs was permanently remitted from the provincial contribution and a sum of Rs. 48·73 lakhs was remitted for that year only. The temporary remission of Rs. 48·73 lakhs was made permanent from 1928–29. The budget estimate for the year 1927–28 anticipated a surplus of Rs. 93·32 lakhs in the Revenue Account. But the actual transactions of the year showed a surplus of Rs. 201·79 lakhs. The increase in the revenues occurred mainly under "Excise," while short expenditure was shown under many heads, notably, "Civil Works," "Irrigation," and "Public Health." In view of the remission of the provincial contribution, large allotments were made in the budget for 1927–28 for schemes of expenditure, in various departments, which had been held up for want of funds. Although the departments were not able to utilize their allotments to the extent anticipated in the budget, the total expenditure in 1927–28 exceeded that of the previous year by Rs. 81·04 lakhs. The bulk of this increase occurred under "Civil Works," "Education," and "Medical." The closing balance of the Revenue Account for

1927–28 amounted to Rs. 400·65 lakhs, after deducting a sum of Rs. 1·11 lakhs which was utilized towards capital expenditure.

The budget for 1928–29 provided for a revenue deficit of Rs. 8·30 lakhs, but the preliminary revised estimates indicate that the year will actually close with a surplus of about Rs. 70 lakhs.

21. During the year, Excise Advisory Committees with non-official majorities were constituted for five more Revenue divisional areas in the Presidency. **Excise**

With effect from 1st April 1928, the limit of private possession of arrack without licence was fixed at four drams for all the municipal areas of the Presidency and for the rural areas in eight districts.

The rate of duty on arrack was raised in three districts. There was also an enhancement in the issue price of opium and duty on bhang.

The experiment of closing arrack shops in toddy drinking areas was continued, during the year, in five taluks. Prohibition of the sale of liquor, except on medical certificate, to members of the hill tribes in the Nilgiris was also continued.

There was an increase under all heads of revenue except opium, due mainly to the higher rentals realized for the lease 1928–29.

22. The birth-rate during the year was slightly more than during the year 1927 (37·0 as compared with 36·5 per mille), while the death-rate was slightly less. The mortality from epidemic diseases was almost the same except in the case of cholera which was more severe. **Births and deaths**

23. The year under review was marked by important developments. The appointment of **Public health**

first-class health officers in two municipalities was sanctioned and second-class health officers were replaced by first-class health officers in four municipalities. Second-class health officers were also sanctioned for the municipalities of Ellore and Srīvilliputtūr and the reserve of second-class health officers was increased from one to two. A second assistant to the Professor of Hygiene was appointed in the Medical College. As an experimental measure, assistant health officers were appointed in six districts to assist the district health officers. Eighteen additional health inspectors were appointed in various districts of the Presidency, including one in the Agency.

The special establishment appointed in the previous year carried out anti-malarial investigations in six municipal areas, six rural and union areas and one estate. Anti-malarial operations in the Agency were commenced under the supervision of a specially trained first-class health officer with four health inspectors.

The outstanding feature of the year was the amalgamation of the ankylostomiasis campaign with the Public Health department and the creation of the rural sanitation campaign as a branch of the Public Health administration of this Presidency.

The cholera epidemic during July, August and September in the previous year in the districts of Guntūr, Kistna and Gōdāvari was followed by a prolonged epidemic in Nellore district following the cyclone which devastated parts of the district. The infection spread into the districts of Chittoor and Kurnool. In the year under review, cholera broke out rather severely in the Northern Circars, all the Central districts and a few among the

Southern districts. Extra reserve staff and temporary health inspectors were sanctioned to meet the demands from local bodies. Owing to the prompt measures taken, cholera was brought under control. Anti-cholera inoculations were freely given, and as many as 806,575 doses were supplied to local bodies free of cost.

Under the auspices of the Indian Research Fund Association, a rat flea survey in this Presidency was continued.

The Food Adulteration Act was amended by Act II of 1928, but has not come into force as yet in any part of the Presidency. So far, standards for milk, butter, and ghee have been fixed and a standard for tea has been worked out and is under the consideration of Government.

The propaganda section, constituted in 1927, organized an extensive programme of work. Lantern slides were revised and new slides prepared. All the leaflets of the old Madras Health Council were revised and reprinted with new illustrations wherever necessary and fresh posters were issued. The department, through this section, participated in the All-India Exhibition in December 1927 and January 1928. The department also participated in the Park Fair Exhibition. Two new films were procured during the year.

The Health Week was celebrated with great enthusiasm throughout the whole Presidency. Bellary won the first award of the Imperial Baby Week Challenge Shield for the best celebration in the whole of the British Empire in 1927. Further distinction was achieved by this Presidency in securing, for the celebration of 1928, the first award of the newly instituted Irwin Cup.

Medical relief

24. Additional rural dispensaries, under the scheme of subsidies were opened by various taluk boards. In addition to the three rural dispensaries eligible for Government subsidy in each taluk board, subsidies for 78 additional rural dispensaries were provided for in the budget estimate for 1928-29. At the end of the year, 84 additional rural dispensaries were in existence. With a view to facilitate medical relief in the mufassal and to relieve local bodies of considerable financial liabilities, the Government took over, under their management, 96 local and municipal medical institutions for development as divisional medical and surgical centres. Ten women and children medical institutions were also taken over by Government.

As in previous years, the contribution of Rs. 7,000, allotted by the British Empire Leprosy Relief Association was utilized in giving grants for drugs, equipment and appliances. Grants were also given for the establishment of a leper clinic at the Government Hospital, Krishnagiri, and for the provision of drugs required for the out-patient treatment of lepers in the medical institutions in Kurnool and Nandikotkur taluks. An enhanced rate of capitation grant was sanctioned to the private bodies managing leper asylums.

The report of the Indian delegation of the British Social Hygiene Council on venereal diseases was published. The various recommendations made therein are under consideration. A sum of Rs. 50,200 was sanctioned by Government for the purchase of drugs and equipment required for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal diseases in the Presidency State hospitals in Madras and five headquarter hospitals in the mufassal.

The Madras Nurses and Midwives Act, 1926, was brought into force with effect from 14th February 1928.

The amalgamation of the clerical staff of the Presidency State hospitals in the Madras City for purposes of promotion and transfers was sanctioned. A reorganization of the staff of the King Institute, Guindy, and the revision of pay of attendants in the three mental hospitals were also sanctioned. The designation of "ward attendants" employed in Government medical institutions in the mufassal was changed to "nursing orderlies" and text-books for them were prescribed.

A committee of medical officers was appointed by the Surgeon-General to investigate into the question of providing cots for Government hospitals and to suggest a uniform type of cot.

As a result of the recommendations of the Royal Commission on the Superior Civil Services in India, the cadre of the Indian Medical Service in the Madras Civil Medical department will be reduced from 50 to 29. Of the 23 reserved posts, ten will be open to Indian officers of the Indian Medical Service on the civil side. A separate branch of the Madras Medical Service for teaching physiology in the medical colleges and schools was formed with effect from 1st July 1928. A whole-time professorship for teaching bacteriology at the Medical College, Madras, was sanctioned from the same date. A competitive examination for the recruitment of civil assistant surgeons, from the panel of house surgeons and house physicians, was held during the year. A scheme for the recruitment of sub-assistant surgeons by the Selection Board was also sanctioned.

Three civil assistant surgeons and three sub-assistant surgeons were deputed to the School of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene, Calcutta, for post-graduate study. Three sub-assistant surgeons were also deputed to Calcutta to undergo training in leprosy. A medical officer and a lady civil assistant surgeon were deputed to England to specialize in pediatrics. Another medical officer was sent to England to specialize in mental diseases. A civil assistant surgeon was deputed to the Calcutta school for training in practical pharmacology.

As the fifth year class had been opened at the Vizagapatam Medical College in July 1927, the first batch of medical graduates passed out during the year. Revised arrangements were sanctioned whereby a joint selection committee will make the selection of candidates for admission to the two colleges of Madras and Vizagapatam from a common list of applicants.

There were five medical schools in the Presidency at the beginning of the year. The medical school at Madura was abolished from July as it was considered unnecessary. A committee was appointed to investigate and report on certain matters connected with the future of medical education in the Presidency. The opening of a medical school at Guntūr has been deferred for the present, pending the receipt of the report of this committee.

Plans and estimates amounting to Rs. 12·08 lakhs for a combined pathological institute for the Medical College and an administration block for the General Hospital were sanctioned during the year.

The Government School of Indian Medicine also participated in the year's development, by expansion in all its branches. A post-graduate course in Indian Medicine was opened during the year.

25. The committee appointed to examine and report on the present condition of physical training in secondary schools for boys, have submitted their report to Government. The post of woman specialist in physical education was placed on a permanent footing. A physical training class was opened in the Lady Willingdon Training College, with a view to the employment of physical training instructresses in Government training schools for mistresses. **Education**

Compulsory medical inspection was introduced in arts colleges for men and women in the Madras University area and in elementary schools for boys in areas where compulsory elementary education has been enforced. As an optional measure, the system was also extended to arts colleges in the Āndhra University area and secondary schools for girls.

The subordinate inspecting agency was considerably strengthened by the addition of several posts in the cadres of deputy inspectors of schools and sub-assistant inspectresses.

Considerable progress was made in the provision of elementary education. Sanction was accorded for the opening of 687 board elementary schools for boys under taluk boards and 612 schools for boys under the management of village panchayats with the aid of provincial funds. Funds were also placed at the disposal of the district educational councils for the opening of nearly one hundred schools for boys under private management.

The Madras Corporation introduced compulsory education in all divisions of the city for all children of school-going age except Muhammadan girls. Compulsion was also introduced in the municipalities of Anantapur and Nellore and in the union board of Tiruvadi in the Tanjore district. Sanction was also accorded by Government for the introduction of compulsion for all boys of school-going age residing in the limits of the Saidapet taluk in the Chingleput district. The scheme of compulsion in selected areas inhabited by Mappillas was further extended. As an experimental measure, sanction was accorded for the opening of adult education classes by non-official and honorary workers in fifteen selected centres.

Additional training facilities were provided by the opening of new training schools and additional training classes in the existing schools. Government have also approved of the proposal to place assistants on the staff of certain Government training schools to be in immediate charge of the hostels attached to these schools.

The Government Muhammadan College was made permanent. The regulations and syllabus of the European school examination were revised and reprinted.

A conference of district educational officers was held in January 1928, at which various educational administrative problems were discussed.

PART II

THE REPORT

CHAPTER I

PHYSICAL AND POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY

PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE COUNTRY, AREA, CLIMATE AND CHIEF STAPLES

1. *Vide* pages 1 to 11 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

POLITICAL

HISTORICAL SUMMARY

2. *Vide* pages 12 to 40 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

FORM OF ADMINISTRATION

3. *Vide* pages 41 to 63 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22 and pages 1 to 2 of the Report for the year 1925–26.

CHARACTER OF LAND TENURES

4. *Vide* pages 64 to 70 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SURVEY

5. *Vide* pages 71 to 83 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

SYSTEM OF SETTLEMENTS

6. *Vide* pages 84 to 99 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CIVIL DIVISIONS OF THE BRITISH TERRITORY

7. *Vide* pages 100 to 116 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22 and page 3 of the Report for the year 1925-26.

In November 1927, certain villages of Bhavāni taluk in the Coimbatore district and of Dharmapuri and Omalur taluks in the Salem district were constituted into a division and district called the Mettur division and Mettur district respectively with headquarters at Mettur.

On the 1st July 1927, the Government issued an order that the taluks of Anjengo and Tangasseri, which formed part of the Malabar district, should form part of the Tinnevelly division in the Tinnevelly district.

DETAILS OF THE CENSUS OF 1921—TRIBES AND LANGUAGES

8. *Vide* pages 117 to 120 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

CHANGES IN THE ADMINISTRATION (1927-28)

9. His Excellency the Right Hon'ble George Joachim Goschen, Viscount Goschen of Hawkhurst, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., continued to hold office throughout the year.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar, K.C.I.E., proceeded on special duty as Delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations on the afternoon of 6th August 1927 and resumed his office on the forenoon of 28th October 1927. During this period, the Hon'ble Sir Norman Marjoribanks, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S., acted as Vice-President of the Executive Council and Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell, C.S.I., C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., I.C.S., as Member of Council.

The Hon'ble Mr. T. E. Moir, C.S.I., C.I.E., proceeded on four months' leave for urgent reasons of health from the 2nd September 1927. During this period, Mr. N. Macmichael, C.S.I., I.C.S., was appointed to be a temporary Member of Council. Mr. T. E. Moir resumed his office on the forenoon of 2nd January 1928.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar vacated his office as Member of Council on the afternoon of 10th March 1928 and his place was taken by M.R.Ry. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E., who resigned the office on the forenoon of 13th March 1928. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell was appointed temporary Member in this vacancy from the forenoon of the 13th March 1928 until the appointment of a permanent Member by His Majesty. Sir Norman Marjoribanks was appointed Vice-President of the Executive Council from the 10th March 1928.

M.R.Ry. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar Avargal and M.R.Ry. Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar Avargal, who were appointed Ministers in the preceding year, resigned their offices with effect from the afternoon of 8th March 1928. In their places, the Hon'ble Mr. Sami Muthiah Mudaliyar and the Hon'ble Mr. Manattattai Rangaratnam Seturatnam Ayyar were appointed Ministers with effect from the afternoon of 16th March 1928.

His Excellency the Governor's Tours

10. During the year 1927–28, His Excellency the Right Hon'ble the Viscount Goschen, G.C.I.E., C.B.E., V.D., Governor of Madras, made the following tours :—

Erode — On his way to Ootacamund in April His Excellency halted at Erode on the 9th to open the municipal park.

Ramnad district — His Excellency left Ootacamund on the 27th June 1927 for Manamadura, where he opened the district board bridge the next day. On the 29th June, His Excellency opened the Virudhunagar-Tenkasi Railway, received an address from the Virudhunagar municipal council and laid the foundation stone of the electric power house at Virudhunagar. He returned to Ootacamund on the 30th June.

Coimbatore — On the 23rd September, His Excellency motored to Coimbatore from Ootacamund to lay the foundation stone of the Sir Robert Stanes' High School and returned to Ootacamund the same day.

South Kanara — In October, His Excellency, accompanied by Viscountess Goschen, visited the South Kanara district. He motored from Ootacamund on the 4th October via Mysore and Mercara, where he stayed for a few days. On the way to Mangalore from Mercara His Excellency visited the Saw Mills at Parappa on the 10th October. At Mangalore, His Excellency received addresses from the municipal council and the South Kanara district board and several deputations from non-official bodies, laid the foundation stone of the Women and Children's Hospital, opened the new Science wing of the St. Aloysius' College and attended the Police sports. From Mangalore he visited Mudabidri and Karkal on the 13th and reached Madras on the 16th October.

Nellore — On the 10th November, His Excellency paid a visit to Nellore with the object of acquainting himself with the conditions prevalent there consequent on the damage and suffering caused by the cyclone and seeing for himself the extent of the damage done. His Excellency drove round the town and discussed with the members of the local

Relief Committee the steps to be taken for the alleviation of distress and general restoration and reconstruction.

Kistna, West Gōdāvari, East Gōdāvari, Vizagapatam and Guntūr districts

His Excellency, accompanied by Viscountess Goschen, left Madras on the 4th December 1927 for the Kistna, West Gōdāvari, East Gōdāvari, Vizagapatam and Guntūr districts. At Bezwada, His Excellency received an address from the municipal council and presided at the first convocation of the Āndhra University. From Bezwada he motored to Masulipatam halting at Vuyyūru where the Canadian Baptist Mission's Girls' Hostel was opened. At Masulipatam, addresses were presented to him by the municipal council and the Kistna district board. From Bezwada His Excellency proceeded to Ellore, where he received addresses from the municipal council and the West Gōdāvari district board and inspected the sites for the headquarters offices and residences of district officials. The next place to be visited was Rajahmundry, where His Excellency was presented with an address by the municipal council. He also inspected the headworks of the Dowlaishwaram lock and the Central Jail. From Rajahmundry, His Excellency motored to Rampa-Chodavaram (Agency) where he attended a darbar for hill muttadars and thence to Pithāpuram halting en route at Peddāpuram to receive an address from the municipal council. At Pithāpuram, the Town Hall and the Ladies' Club were opened. Cocanada was next visited: here His Excellency received addresses from the municipal council, the East Gōdāvari district board and the East Gōdāvari Agency district board, and presented to the Cocanada municipality the challenge shield won by them during 1927 for the best municipal Health and Baby Week. From Cocanada he motored to the creek, 17 miles away, which divides the Gōdāvari district from the French Settlement of Yanam, to lay the foundation stone of a bridge to be constructed across the creek. Arriving at Waltair on the 11th December, His Excellency made a detailed inspection of the Vizagapatam harbour works. Besides receiving addresses from the municipal council and the district board, His Excellency opened the Medical

College, the Pathology block attached to the King George Hospital, and the hostel for the Mrs. A. V. N. College. The Sri Seethabai Rani Saheba of Wadhwan Gynæcological Block connected with the Victoria Gosha Hospital was also opened. From Waltair His Excellency proceeded to Jeypore, where he stopped for three days. After spending the 19th at Guntūr, where he was presented with addresses by the municipal council and the district board, he returned to Madras on the 20th December.

His Excellency spent a few days about the last week in December in Ootacamund.

Vellore — On the 5th March 1928, His Excellency motored from Madras to Vellore to open the hospital buildings connected with the Missionary Medical School for Women and returned to Madras the next day.

Delhi — On the invitation of His Excellency the Viceroy, His Excellency visited Delhi towards the end of March.

CONDITION OF THE PEOPLE

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1337 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prices and Wages in India*]

Condition of the ryot — 11. The ryot in the Circars was more prosperous than in the previous year. In the Deccan, men and cattle had a fair supply of food-grains and fodder ; the small ryots were able, in a large number of cases, to pay off their arrears of assessments, and a portion of the accumulated interest of their borrowings in the past, owing to the fairly good yield and price of groundnut and cotton. In Nellore, the condition of the ryot would have been good but for the cyclone. On the West Coast, his condition continued to be good owing to the fairly good yield of paddy and the high price of pepper. The condition of the ryot in the other districts was not much better than in the previous year. The extension of the area under groundnut, wherever

it occurred, helped the ryot to a fairly large extent with sufficient funds to meet his urgent needs. On the whole, the condition of the average ryot can be called better than in the previous year in most districts of the Presidency.

The assignment of lands on a fairly large scale to members of the depressed classes has raised them in some places to the status of pattadars.

Wages

Owing to the competition for labour from Ceylon and the Straits Settlements, the new railway branch lines, the Mettur project, rice mills, and cotton and groundnut factories, the demand for labour was on the increase in most places and labourers commanded comparatively high wages. The money market continued to be tight in the year for the rural population who are mostly engaged in agriculture.

Political Pensions (1927-28)

12. The political pensions in force on 1st April 1927 amounted to Rs. 2,33,386-4-0 and were distributed among 424 pensioners. During the year under report, pensions amounting to Rs. 14,506-2-0 were newly sanctioned and pensions amounting to Rs. 15,644-9-0 lapsed. Fifteen persons died during the year and the pensions of six were commuted. One pension was reduced partially by commutation. Thirty-one new pensioners were added to the list. The pensions on 1st April 1928 amounted to Rs. 2,32,247-13-0 and were distributed among 434 persons. Payments made to the Carnatic stipendiaries and the Tanjore family amounted to Rs. 1,79,007-15-3 and Rs. 24,714-2-0 respectively. The above amounts include Rs. 4,356 on account of commutation of Carnatic pensions

CHAPTER II

ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAND

SOURCES AND REALIZATION OF LAND REVENUE

(FASLI 1336—1ST JULY 1926 TO 30TH JUNE 1927)

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1336; Statistical Abstract for British India—Land Revenue*]

Sources of land revenue

13. The land revenue of the Presidency is derived from the undermentioned sources:—

(*a*) peshkash or revenue from permanently settled estates,

(*b*) shrotriyam jodi or quit-rent levied on inam villages,

(*c*) assessment including water-rate on lands held under the ryotwari system, and

(*d*) miscellaneous revenue.

The demand payable under these various sources for this fasli and for the preceding fasli is shown below:—

—	Fasli 1335.	Fasli 1336.	Increase or decrease.
	RS.	RS.	RS.
Peshkash	49,92,878	50,09,030	+ 16,152
Cesses	20,85,549	21,72,563	+ 87,014
Quit-rent	7,57,045	7,57,136	+ 91
Cesses	5,71,858	5,82,563	+ 10,705
Ryotwari and miscellaneous.	6,85,20,828	6,71,87,228	−3,33,600
Cesses	70,33,120	70,28,658	− 4,462
Total ...	...	...	...

Collections

14. The total current demand under land revenue and cesses during the fasli was Rs. 8,33,44,778. A sum of Rs. 8,11,33,915 or 97·35 per cent was collected within the fasli and Rs. 24,597 was written off the accounts. The decrease in the percentage of collection is due to the suspension of the collection of certain amounts, which were especially large in the Bellary, Guntūr and Anantapur districts. The total arrear demand under all the heads amounted to Rs. 14,68,145. A sum of Rs. 13,31,954 or 90·72 per cent was collected and a sum of Rs. 72,631 or 4·95 per cent written off the accounts. The balance, outstanding at the end of the fasli, was Rs. 22,49,826 as against Rs. 14,58,417 at the end of the previous fasli.

Coercive processes

15. The following statement shows the number of processes of each kind issued during the year as compared with the figures for the three preceding faslis:—

Coercive processes.	Faslis			
	1333.	1334.	1335.	1336.
Demand notices ..	985,588	740,795	732,621	962,789
Distraint or attachment notices .	113,108	95,118	94,211	73,072
Sale notices	81,616	84,456	76,194	59,184
Sales (number of defaulters)	7,241	7,912	6,330	5,850
Total ...	1,187,553	928,281	909,356	1,100,895

There was an increase in the number of demand notices issued during the fasli as compared with the two previous faslis. There was an increase in the number of notices under all heads, owing to the closer attention paid to the prompt realization of Government dues. The largest increase was in the districts of Tanjore and South Arcot. As compared with the previous faslis, there was a decrease in the number of distraint or attachment notices for the whole Presidency. There has been again a marked decrease in the percentage borne by the number of distraints and attachments to that of demand notices. Out of 71,638 defaulters, whose property was attached, 17·38 per cent paid

up the arrears before sale notices were issued, as against 19·13 per cent in the previous fasli. The number was the largest in Tanjore district. The number of defaulters whose property was sold was less than in fasli 1335. Immovable property to the value of Rs. 4,11,593 was sold for the recovery of arrears amounting to Rs. 1,13,219. The amount realized was Rs. 1,12,350. The value of the land sold was noticeably disproportionate to the arrears in five districts. The price realized on land sold to private individuals amounted on the average to 8 times the assessment in the case of dry lands and 8½ times in the case of wet lands. The extent of land sold to private individuals during the year was 7,446·11 acres under dry land and 1,274·52 acres under wet cultivation. The total area bought in by Government for want of bidders was 4,924·01 acres of dry land and 856·52 acres of wet land.

Charges

16. The charges of the land revenue department are shown under two heads. The charges of district administration, excluding those of village establishments amounted, in the fasli under review, to Rs. 93·45 lakhs. The salaries and allowances of revenue inspectors amounted to Rs. 9·21 lakhs and the village service charges during the fasli were Rs. 120·32 lakhs. The total charges were therefore Rs. 222·98 lakhs, or 27·05 per cent of the land revenue and cesses actually collected. It must be borne in mind that the land revenue department performs multifarious duties of which the administration of the land is only one.

Ryotwari holdings

The total extent of ryotwari holdings during the year was 27·07 million acres, exceeding that of the previous year by 363,841 acres. All districts the contributed to the increase. The increase in Malabar and the Nilgiris was due to re-settlement in the Wynaads, where all private jenmam unoccupied dry lands, which were formerly exempt from assessment, except when cultivated, have now to pay the fixed assessment annually.

Assessment

The total assessment on holdings was Rs. 566·62 lakhs, against Rs. 564·22 lakhs in the previous year. All districts, except Trichinopoly contributed to the increase. The decrease in Trichinopoly district was due to the reclassification of sanded wet lands

in Lalgudi taluk and to the acquisition of lands for the Trichinopoly and Villupuram Railway.

Cultivation

The total area cultivated in the ryotwari holdings was 20·14 million acres as compared with 20·33 million acres in the previous fasli. There was a decrease under both dry and wet cultivation. The decrease under dry occurred in all but eight districts. It was marked in Guntūr, Tinnevelly and East Gōdāvari districts. The decrease under wet cultivation occurred in fourteen districts and was marked in Nellore and South Arcot. Including the area under miscellaneous cultivation, the total area cultivated was 21·29 million acres as against 21·44 acres in the previous year. The decrease in cultivation and the increase in the extent of waste charged were due to an unfavourable season.

Water-rate and second crop charges

The revenue derived from water-rate and second-crop charges amounted to Rs. 29·87 lakhs as against Rs. 36·40 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease occurred in a majority of the districts, and was due to the unfavourable season.

Remissions

The total amount remitted during the fasli was Rs. 34,32,286, which was an increase of Rs. 13,19,814 over the figures in the previous year. The increase was marked under "seasonal remissions." This was due to the unfavourable character of the season and inadequate water-supply in the irrigation sources. The amount remitted under the head "injury by floods" decreased, from Rs. 55,920 in the previous fasli, to Rs. 11,500 in the fasli under review. The decrease was most noticeable in West Gōdāvari and Kistna districts.

Miscellaneous revenue

The miscellaneous revenue amounted to Rupees 109·71 lakhs as against Rs. 105·71 lakhs in the previous fasli. The increase was large under the items "enhanced water-rate on lands irregularly irrigated" and "charges levied for occupation of assessed and unassessed land not granted on patta." There was a decrease under the following items: "rent of lankas," "commission from estates under the Court of Wards management" and "water-rate on minor inams in ryotwari villages."

Enhanced charges were levied amounting to Rs. 3,50,214 on 29,623 acres as against Rs. 3,29,590 on 30,824 acres in the previous year.

Transfers of registry

17. Transfers of revenue registration fall under the following main heads:—

(*a*) applications and notices received from sub-registrars ;

(*b*) applications and intimations received from parties, village officers and others.

Under the first head, 371,423 applications were received during the fasli, as against 328,147 in the previous fasli. The bulk of the increase occurred in the districts of West Gōdāvari, Tanjore, North Arcot, Tinnevelly, Anantapur, Trichinopoly, Chingleput and Cuddapah. Under the second head, the number received was 106,601, as against 97,127 in the previous fasli. The bulk of the increase was in the districts of Kurnool, Guntūr and Chingleput.

The total number of applications of all kinds dealt with, in the fasli under review, including the number pending disposal at its beginning, was 557,141 ; of these, 489,480 were disposed of during the fasli, leaving a balance of 67,661, as against 79,074 in the previous year.

Loans and advances

18. The advances under the Land Improvement Loans Act during the year amounted to Rs. 15·53 lakhs and those under the Agriculturists' Loans Act to Rs. 14·21 lakhs, making a total of Rs. 29·74 lakhs as against Rs. 21·27 lakhs in fasli 1335. The difference was the net result of an increase in the amounts advanced in sixteen districts and a decrease in nine districts. There were no transactions in Madras during the year. The advances granted in Guntūr, Kurnool, Bellary, Chingleput, Arcot (North) and Rāmnād showed a considerable increase over those of fasli 1335. This was due to the fact that loans on a liberal scale were sanctioned in the districts on account of the unfavourable character of the season.

Of the sum of Rs. 8·44 lakhs and Rs. 16·73 lakhs repayable during the year under the Land Improvement Loans Act, and the Agriculturists' Loans Act, on account of principal, Rs. 6·35 lakhs

under the former Act and Rs. 12·54 lakhs under the latter Act were collected. Advances amounting to Rs. 1·27 lakhs under the Land Improvement Loans Act and Rs. ·51 lakh under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were repaid by borrowers on account of loans, the repayment of which had not fallen due, while a sum of Rs. 1,473 was written off as irrecoverable under the former Act and Rs. 1,006 under the latter Act. The aggregate amount of principal and interest repayable during the year under both the Acts, including the balance remaining unpaid out of sums which fell due in previous years, was Rs. 35,92,077, of which a sum of Rs. 9,96,535 or 27·7 per cent, was collected without resort to coercion and a sum of Rs. 15,55,622, or 43·3 per cent, after issue of demand notices. A sum of Rs. 1,29,957 was collected after the attachment of property but before sale, while the amounts realized by the sale of movable and immovable property were Rs. 11,381 and Rs. 32,166, respectively. A sum of Rs. 2,605 was written off as irrecoverable under both principal and interest. The balance outstanding at the end of the year was Rs. 8,63,811, the arrears being heavy in Bellary, Anantapur and Tanjore.

Wells

Eight hundred and twenty-nine wells were newly constructed and 1,712 wells repaired with the aid of loans granted under the Land Improvement Loans Act, as compared with 755 and 1,443 in fasli 1335. The largest number of wells constructed and repaired during the year was in Coimbatore. The numbers in Salem, Anantapur, Madura, North Arcot and Chittoor were also large.

SURVEYS

[Report on the administration of the Survey Department for the official year 1927–28]

Parties

19. During the year under review, six survey parties were working up to 30th September 1927 and five parties subsequent to that date. They were mainly engaged in the cadastral resurvey, and cadastral revision survey of the ryotwari areas in the districts.

Operations

20. The total outturn was 805 square miles in cadastral resurvey, 1,082 square miles in cadastral revision survey and 52 square miles in special cadastral survey, giving a total outturn of 1,939 square miles as compared with the total outturn of 1,688 square miles in the previous year. Sixty-three square miles of land irrigated by canals in proprietary villages in East Gōdāvari and Kistna were surveyed. The special surveys made during the year included 56 miles of road, 12 miles of boundaries between certain estates and the traverse survey of one coffee estate on the Shevaroys. The small deficit noticed in the outturn of party No. 1 is attributed to the fact that parts of the Peddāpuram taluk, where the party was employed during the latter part of the year, are rather unhealthy.

There has been an increase in the outturn of the photo-zincographic office over that of last year.

SETTLEMENTS

[*Report on the administration of the Settlement Department for the year 1927-28*]

Parties

21. Four settlement parties were at work during the year under review; party No. 1 in the East and West Gōdāvari districts, party No. 2 in the Kistna district, party No. 3 in the Anantapur and Salem districts and party No. 4 in the Trichinopoly, Madura, Rāmnād, South Kanara, Malabar and Nilgiri districts. Parties Nos 1 to 3 attended to the outstanding items of work relating to the resettlement of the districts of Tanjore, South Arcot and Bellary. The headquarters of party No. 1 were moved from Rajahmundry to Cocanada and those of party No. 3 from Bellary to Hindupur. Resettlement work was carried out in accordance with the simplified procedure, sanctioned in November 1925, in the East Gōdāvari, West Gōdāvari, Kistna, Salem and South Kanara districts.

Operations

22. Some details of the principal settlement operations of the year are given below :—

In the East Gōdāvari district, resettlement work in the taluks of Amalāpuram, Rāmachandrapuram, Cocanada and Rajahmundry was carried out in accordance with the simplified system. Substantial progress was made in the issue of rough pattas, hearing of objections and field inspections subsequent to the hearing of objections. Fair accounts based on the resurvey were furnished to the district staff for 118 villages. Resettlement operations were started in the Peddāpuram taluk under the new system. Work on the reclassification of porambokes and in the final check of the survey records of lands in which Government have an interest, in non-Government villages, was continued.

In the West Gōdāvari district, resettlement work in the taluks of Narasapur and Tanuku, in accordance with the old system, and in Chintalapudi and parts of Bhīmavaram and Ellore, under the simplified system, was carried out. Fair accounts based on resurvey were handed over to the district staff for the remaining villages of Tanuku and for the intra-municipal portion of the Palakole village of the Narasapur taluk. Rough pattas were issued for 59 villages. Objections were heard for most of these villages and field inspections proceeded with. Fair accounts based on the resurvey were furnished to the district staff for two villages of Chintalapudi and the remaining villages of Bhīmavaram. Resettlement work was commenced in the Nidadavole taluk in accordance with the new system. Progress was made in the reclassification of porambokes and in the final check of the survey records of the lands in which Government have an interest in non-Government villages.

In the Kistna district, resettlement work was continued, in accordance with the old system, in the Divi and Bandar taluks, and, the simplified system, in the Gudivāda, Kaikalūr and Bezwada taluks. Rough pattas were issued and objections heard for the intra-municipal portions of the parts included in the Masulipatam municipality. Fair accounts based on the resurvey were furnished for

the remaining villages of Divi taluk. A report on the financial results of the reclassification of the soils in the same taluk was submitted during the year. In Gudivāda, Kaikalūr and Bezwada taluks, satisfactory progress was made in the issue of rough pattas, hearing of objections and the subsequent field inspections. Fair accounts based on the resurvey were handed over to the district staff for 84 villages. Resettlement operations in accordance with the new system were started in Nandigama taluk. Work on the reclassification of porambokes and in the final check of survey records of lands in which Government have an interest, in non-Government villages, was proceeded with.

In Bellary district, the permanent registers for all the non-Government villages in the black soil taluks were prepared and furnished to the district staff during the year.

In Anantapur district, rough pattas were issued and objections heard for the remaining villages of Madakasira and one village of Hindupur. In all the other villages of these two taluks, supplementary notices, embodying the changes necessitated by the orders of Government on the resettlement scheme report, were issued and objections heard. Fair accounts, embodying the resettlement rates, were furnished to the district staff for the remaining villages in the taluks of Anantapur, Dharmavaram and Penukonda and for all the villages of Hindupur and Madakasira. Statistics for the report on the introduction of resettlement in the red soil taluks was compiled during the the year and the preparation of the resettlement diglott registers was in progress. Permanent registers were prepared and furnished to the district staff for the non-Government villages in the black soil taluks of Gooty and Tadpatri. Fair accounts, embodying resettlement rates on Government lands in non-Government villages, were handed over to the district staff for all the non-Government villages in the taluks of Anantapur, Dharmavaram, Penukonda, Hindupur and Madakasira.

In the Salem district, work on the issue of rough pattas, the hearing of objections and subsequent field inspections, progressed. Resettlement operations in the Salem taluk were started in accordance with the new system. The necessity for the resurvey of the taluks of Hosūr, Krishnagiri and Dharmapuri was investigated.

In the South Arcot district, the issue of rough pattas in the last remaining non-Government villages was completed and the outstanding balance of permanent registers handed over to the district staff.

In Tanjore district, the settlement of lands in which Government have interest was completed in the only remaining non-Government village. Permanent registers were prepared and furnished to the district staff.

In Trichinopoly district, resettlement diglott registers for 276 villages were sent to the Board of Revenue during the year, and the work on the final check of survey records of lands in which Government have an interest was completed in non-Government villages and the permanent registers handed over to the district staff. Diglott registers for 66 whole inam villages were revised and 31 registers handed over to the President, district board.

In Madura district, the statistics, required for the report on the introduction of the resettlement in the Kodaikānal taluk, were compiled.

In the Nilgiri and Malabar Wynaads, the remaining items of work, in connexion with the introduction of resettlement, were completed during the year.

In Malabar, resettlement work, under the simplified system, was carried out in the Ernad and Walluvanad taluks. Substantial progress was made in the issue of rough pattas, hearing of objections, field inspections and the furnishing of fair accounts to the district staff. Resettlement work was begun during the year in the Ponnāni taluk under the new system.

In South Kanara district, resettlement work in Kasaragod taluk, including the villages transferred from that taluk to Mangalore and Puttūr, was

carried out under the simplified system. During the year under report, six assistant collectors were trained by settlement Party No. 1 in survey and settlement and in the maintenance of records and registration. Resettlement registers for 276 villages were prepared for printing in settlement party offices and those for 711 villages were printed and despatched during the year.

Work under Estates Land Act

Settlement parties Nos. 1 and 4 and a special revenue officer did the work relating to the record of rights and settlement of rents under the provisions of the Estates Land Act.

Finance

23. The total expenditure during the year, including the cost of printing and binding resettlement registers, amounted to Rs. 10,07,753. The expenditure in the previous year was, as finally adjusted, Rs. 9,41,518.

REVENUE RECORDS AND REGISTRATION

[*Report of the Board of Revenue for the year 1927–28*]

24. There has been a distinct improvement in maintenance work in the districts since the appointment of inspecting tahsildars. The post of Director of Land Records was revived in April 1927.

Training

25. Schools for the training of revenue subordinates in survey were held in 14 districts. A school was held at Palghat for training in the use of the circumferentor and traverse computation. Schools, conducted by competent revenue inspectors for the training of karnams, were held in all districts except the Nilgiris. Two schools were conducted by the deputy surveyors of the districts concerned. It is reported that, in most districts, advantage was taken of the schools to reduce stone maintenance. A school was held in the Chingleput district for the training of candidates for the post of inspecting tahsildars.

Maintenance

26. Regular maintenance was in progress throughout the ryotwari tracts in the Presidency, except in the Kistna district and in some parts of a few other districts

The number of subdivisions sanctioned during the year was 103,742, a slightly larger number than in the previous year. 64,446 subdivisions were effected on the applications of the ryots, a sum of Rs. 1,03,565-3-0 was collected by way of subdivision fees and Rs. 26,174-3-0 paid to the karnams for the work of subdivision. Ryots' applications show a considerable increase over the figures of last year. Subdivisions

There has been an increase in the number of stones to be attended to at the end of the year, but it is gratifying to note that the number of repairs and renewals effected by the ryots themselves is the highest on record since 1923-24. The general complaint is that the ryots still continue to be indifferent, but there is reason to believe that ryots in several districts are taking a good deal of interest, especially after the introduction of personal service of notices. Survey marks

Scattered surveys were done in various districts under the supervision of inspecting tahsildars. Special operations

27. The condition of the great trigonometrical stations and bench marks was generally satisfactory and necessary action was taken in respect of those found to be in need of repairs. Great trigonometrical stations

WASTE LANDS

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Season and Crop Report for the year 1927-28*]

28. The total area of the Presidency for which details were available was 90·675 million acres of which a net extent of 33·793 million acres was under cultivation as against 33·263 million acres in the preceding fasli. The area classed as forest fell from 13·074 million acres to 13·054 million acres while 20·471 million acres (or 0·322 million acres more than in the previous fasli) were not available for cultivation. Of the remainder, 10·086 million acres were fallow and 13·271 million acres formed cultivable waste other than fallow, as against 10·874 million acres and 13·217 million acres respectively in the previous fasli.

GOVERNMENT ESTATES

29. There is nothing to record under this head for the Presidency.

WARDS' ESTATES

(FASLI 1336—1ST JULY 1926 TO 30TH JUNE 1927)

[*Report on the administration of the estates under the Court of Wards in the Madras Presidency for fasli 1336 (1926-27).*]

Estaees under management

30. At the end of fasli 1335, there were 19 estates under the Court's superintendence. During fasli 1336, the Madukkur and the Mambarai estates were handed over to the proprietors and the Kadambur estate, in the Tinnevelly district, was taken under management. The number of estates under the Court's control at the end of the fasli therefore was 18, including Ūttumalai, which still continued under formal superintendence. Although the proprietor of the Kudapalli estate attained his majority in June 1927, his estate was retained under management under section 57 of Act I of 1902.

Cultivation and holdings

Excluding the Kurupam estate, the percentage of cultivation (422,766 acres) to holdings (572,410 acres) in the fasli was 73·86 as against 72·59 in fasli 1335. The percentage was 75 and above in eleven estates and below that figure in five estates.

Finance

Demand, collection and balance

31. The gross current demand of all the estates, excluding Ūttumalai and including Kurupam, Poravipalaiyam and Mambarai, amounted to Rs. 29·52 lakhs and the net demand, excluding remissions, to Rs. 25·72 lakhs. As a result of decreases in nine estates and increases in six, there was a net decrease of Rs. 2·20 lakhs in the demand of fasli 1336. The bulk of the decreases occurred in Sivaganga, South Vallūru, part 1, and Arni. The considerable fall in Sivaganga is attributed to the complete failure of seasonal rains. The decrease in South Vallūru, part 1, is said to be due to the fall in the lanka leases and that in Arni due to the unfavourable season, necessitating the grant of remissions. Bodokhemidi, the

Zamorin's estate and Madugula are mainly responsible for increasing the demand for fasli 1336. Of the net current demand of Rs. 25·72 lakhs, Rs. 17·74 lakhs were collected and Rs. ·14 lakh written off during the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 7·84 lakhs at its close. Excluding subsequent collections, and the remissions recommended after the close of the fasli, the net recoverable balance on 1st October 1927 amounted to Rs. 7·55 lakhs, or 29·4 per cent of the demand. The balance exceeded 25 per cent in three estates, was less than 1 per cent in Arni and was nil in Ramapatnam and Ilayarasanendal, part 1. The arrear demand at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 13·42 lakhs, of which Rs. 7·12 lakhs were outstanding at its close. The arrears were below Rs. 1,000 in four estates and below Rs. 5,000 in four others. Shulagiri showed an arrear balance of Rs. 5,619. The arrears exceeded Rs. 10,000 in six estates. There were no arrears in Kudapalli and Ilayarasanendal, part 1. The aggregate revised cash balance at the beginning of the fasli was Rs. 3·77 lakhs. The total cash receipts during the fasli amounted to Rs. 30·64 lakhs, bringing the total cash assets of the fasli to Rs. 34·41 lakhs. Deducting from this the expenditure of Rs. 29·48 lakhs, the cash balance at the close of the fasli was Rs. 4·93 lakhs. Including Government promissory notes and other securities and fixed deposits, and the estimated value of grain on hand, the aggregate closing balance to the credit of the estates at the end of the fasli was Rs. 11·19 lakhs. The ordinary receipts and charges of the fasli were Rs. 24·88 lakhs and Rs. 22·83 lakhs respectively. Four estates—Bodokhemidi, Jeypore Kumarika's estate, South Vallūru, part 1, and Arni—had balances exceeding Rs. 1 lakh at the end of the fasli. Generally speaking, where these balances were not required for specific purposes, they were invested in Government securities.

Agricultural improvements

The two agricultural farms, attached to the Devastanam section of the Zamorin's estate, continued to work during the fasli. The combined agricultural and dairy farm of Guruvayur Devaswam yielded satisfactory results during the

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year. The agricultural demonstration farm at Digapahandi estate was also a success. In most of the other estates, the pannai lands were leased out as usual and there was little or no scope for the introduction of improved methods of agriculture.

Establishment charges

The average percentage of the establishment charges and the Government commission to the normal receipts in the fasli was 20·7, as against 17·78 in fasli 1335. The maximum limit of 20 per cent prescribed for surveyed estates and 25 per cent for other estates was appreciably exceeded only in Madugula and Sivaganga. The percentages in these estates were less than in fasli 1335 owing to retrenchment of establishment.

Maramat works

32. During the fasli, the Court's special attention was bestowed on this important branch. The programmes for works in Arni and Rāmapatnam were carried out and a three years' programme sanctioned for Madugula. Though no special works were undertaken in the Zamorin's estate during the year, completed works were paid for and ordinary repairs carried out. In Sivaganga, expenditure was limited to indispensable repairs owing to financial stringency consequent on the failure of the monsoon. Including the trust institutions, the total maramat allotment in all the estates was Rs. 5·42 lakhs. The value of work done and the work paid for amounted to Rs. 4·73 lakhs and Rs. 4·68 lakhs, respectively, or 87·2 and 86·2 per cent of the allotment. The maramat expenditure in the fasli of Rs. 4·68 lakhs was 16·1 per cent of the total ordinary charges, including those of trust institutions.

Debts

Debts due to the estates

33. The debts due to the several estates at the beginning of the fasli amounted to Rs. 12·50 lakhs. No loans were newly granted in the fasli. Including the debts newly brought to account, and the interest and costs that accrued during the fasli, the aggregate amount due was Rs. 13·87 lakhs, of which Rs. 0·88 lakh was collected and Rs. ·23 lakh was written off, leaving a balance of Rs. 12·76 lakhs at its close. The outstanding balance continued to be large in the Jeypore Kumarika's estate and South Vallūru, part 1. The outstanding balance was also large in

Kudapalli and the two estates of Kurupam and Poravipālaiyam.

Leaving out of account the Mudukkur estate and the Kurupam estate, the liabilities of the other estates amounted to Rs. 21·63 lakhs at the beginning of the fasli. No debts were newly contracted or brought to account during the fasli. The total liabilities of the estates, including interest and costs that accrued during the fasli, amounted to Rs. 23·05 lakhs. Of this amount, Rs. 1·60 lakhs were paid off and Rs. 0·15 lakh struck off in the fasli, leaving a balance of Rs. 21·30 lakhs. The outstanding debts exceeded Rs. 50,000 in five estates. Debts due by the estates

The provisions of section 45 of the Court of Wards Act continued to be in force in the estate of South Vallūru, part 1, Arni, Bagalūr, Shulagiri and Kurupam. The total debts, payable by South Vallūru, part 1, inclusive of interest, amounted to Rs. 7·79 lakhs of which Rs. 33,465 were paid off leaving a balance of Rs. 7·46 lakhs. Rupees 2·10 lakhs were invested in the Imperial Bank of India and will be utilized for the liquidation of debts after a suitable scheme has been framed. The outstanding liabilities of Arni amounted to Rs. 3·54 lakhs of which only Rs. 171 was paid within the fasli and Rs. 28,586 subsequently. Of the total debt of Rs. 35,089, due by the Bagalūr estate, Rs. 4,243 were paid within the fasli. The outstanding claim against the Shulagiri estate is secured by the late poligar's Insurance Policy. The liabilities of Kurupam amounted to Rs. 4 lakhs and a scheme has been ordered to be prepared for their liquidation. Encumbered estates

34. The wards mostly attended local schools and colleges as before. Their health and conduct were satisfactory. Education of wards

35. The administration of the Trust institutions in Kudapalli, Sivaganga, the Zamorin's estate, Bodokhemidi, Kurupam and Guruvayur devaswam was satisfactory and their financial condition generally sound, with the exception of Sivaganga Devastanam estate. Institutions attached to estates

Religious and charitable

The working of the second-grade college maintained by the Zamorin's estate was satisfactory Educational

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during the fasli. The strength in both the school and college departments remained practically unchanged. The result of the public examinations was satisfactory. The hostel was overcrowded. Scouting received adequate attention. The Residential Vedic School was maintained by the Zamorin's estate which also contributed to the upkeep of the Sanskrit College at Pattambi. In Sivaganga, the Raja's High School and the Alice Millar Girls' School continued under the supervision of the Raja subject to the general control of the Estate Collector. Both institutions worked at a loss during the fasli. The high school results at the public examinations were creditable. Games and the scout movement were popular. The District Educational Officer found the general condition of the school to be satisfactory.

The working of the middle school and the elementary schools maintained by the Bodokhemidi estate was satisfactory.

Field survey work

36. The survey of the Sivaganga Zamindari was completed in fasli 1335 and the completion notified for 387 out of 389 villages. Survey records have been received for all the villages and maps for 375 villages. Commutation has been introduced in a majority of the villages comprising the estate and steps are being taken to introduce it in the remaining villages. The survey of the Rāmapatnam estate has been completed, but no completion report has yet been received. The survey of the Bodokhemidi estate has been started.

Estate forests

37. The forests in Sivaganga, Arni, Madugula and Shulagiri were worked under the rules sanctioned by Government under sections 26 and 32 of the Madras Forest Act. The administration of the forests in Sivaganga continued under the supervision of the Raja subject to the general control of the Estate Collector. The executive control of the forests in Madugula continued to vest in the District Forest Officer, Vizagapatam. The forests in the Zamorin's estate remained in the direct possession of the estate with a ranger to supervise them. The Agent to the Governor, Ganjām, has since assumed control of the Agency

forests of the Bodokhemidi estate. The forests in the plains are being managed departmentally. The forests in Kurupam are the exclusive property of the impartible section of the estate, and rules under section 26 of the Forest Act are in force.

Inam alienations

38. The special staff employed in the Bodokhemidi estate for enquiring into the inam alienations was disbanded in October 1926. The preparation of the alienation records was completed in almost all the villages. Cash rents have been fixed on all the lands unauthorizedly enjoyed as inam lands and now treated as jirayati, and on resumed inam lands.

Other estates

39. The Cochin portion of the Rāmapatnam estate continued to be under the management of the Cochin Darbar. The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 19,166 and the total charges to Rs. 15,853.

REVENUE AND RENT-PAYING CLASSES

(FASLI 1336—1ST JULY 1926 TO 30TH JUNE 1927).

[*Report on the settlement of Land Revenue for fasli 1336*; *Report on the working of the Madras Estates Land Act, 1908, during fasli 1336*]

Revenue paying classes

40. The principal revenue-paying classes of the Presidency are zamindars, inamdars and ryotwari holders. The last class contributed about 92 per cent of the total land revenue collected during the year under report.

The ryotwari system of land tenure implies a settlement between the Government and the individual cultivator. The practice of sub-letting, however, has long been prevalent and continued, though it did not increase, during the year under report. It is practised chiefly by absentee landholders, by those engaged in professions other than agriculture, capitalists and by large landholders. There is reason to believe that, in the East Gōdāvari and Rāmnād districts, there is an increasing tendency to sub-let ryotwari holdings.

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Rent-paying classes

41. By rent-paying classes are generally meant tenants of zamindaris and whole inam villages. During the year under report, no general tendency was observed on the part of tenants to sell their land to non-cultivating classes.

Few or no suits or applications instituted under the Estates Land Act were filed during the fasli under report in the districts of Anantapur, Bellary and Kurnool. There was an increase in the number of suits in eleven districts and a decrease in eight districts, while there was an increase in the number of applications in seven districts and a decrease in eleven districts. The tendency to decrease in the number of suits has received a check in the fasli under report, while, in the number of applications, the tendency towards an increase has reappeared. No special difficulties were experienced in the working of the Estates Land Act.

CHAPTER III

PROTECTION

LEGISLATING AUTHORITY

42. *Vide* pages 140 to 143 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

COURSE OF LEGISLATION (1927-28)

Legislation

43. During the year, notice was given for the introduction of 30 new Bills, six of which were official. The following Bills received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General during the year and became Law:—

(1) The Presidency Small Cause Courts (Amendment) Bill—No. 1 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 1st March 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 15th April 1927 and became Act III of 1927.

(2) A Bill to amend the Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918—No. 2 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 1st March 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 3rd February1928 and became Act II of 1928.

(3) The Madras High Court (Jurisdictional limits) Bill—No. 3 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 1st March 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 28th April 1927 and became Act IV of 1927.

(4) The Madras Planters' Labour (Repealing) Act, 1927—Bill No. 7 of 1927, introduced in the Council in 1st March 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 13th November 1927 and became Act VI of 1927.

(5) The Tuticorin Port Trust Act (Amendment)—Bill No. 8 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 29th March 1927, received the assent of

H.E. the Governor-General on 27th January 1928 and became Act III of 1928.

(6) The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act—Bill No. 23 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 1st November 1927, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 26th January 1928 and became Act I of 1928.

(7) A Bill to amend the Malabar Wills Act—No. 29 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 24th January 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 30th May 1928 and became Act VII of 1928.

(8) The Madras Marriages Validation Bill—No. 33 of 1927, introduced in the Council on 23rd January 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 15th March 1928 and became Act IV of 1928.

(9) A Bill further to amend the Madras Children Act, 1920 (No. 1 of 1928), introduced in the Council on 23rd January 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 26th May 1928 and became Act VI of 1928.

(10) A Bill to declare the Jaggampetta A and D Estates to be Impartible (No. 3 of 1928), introduced in the Council on 27th February 1928, received the assent of H.E. the Governor-General on 22nd May 1928 and became Act V of 1928.

Motion to introduce the Madras Village Police Regulation Bill (No. 4 of 1927) was lost on 23rd January 1928. The Madras Elementary Education Bill (No. 6 of 1927) of a non-official member was withdrawn by leave of the Council on 14th March 1928.

Motion to introduce a Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act (No. 22 of 1927) of another non-official member was lost on 20th October 1927.

Among the bills that were pending before the Council at the close of the year, the following may be mentioned:—

Official.—(*a*) The Madras University Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 24 of 1927) was introduced in the Council on 2nd November 1927 and referred

to a Select Committee. The Select Committee report has not yet been presented to the Council.

(*b*) The Indian Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill (No. 11 of 1927) was introduced in the Council on 19th October 1927 and referred to a Select Committee. The Committee has since presented its report and the Bill has been passed into Law.

Non-official.—(1) A Bill to amend the Madras University Act (No. 10 of 1927) of Mr. Satyamurti was referred to the same Select Committee as was appointed for the consideration of Bill No. 24 of 1927.

(2) Several bills to amend the Āndhra University Act were introduced in the Council and are in progress.

(3) The Jain Succession Bill (No. 17 of 1927) of Mr. K. R. Karant was introduced in the Council on 20th October 1927 and referred to a Select Committee.

(4) The Malabar Tenancy Bill (No. 28 of 1927) of the Hon'ble Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar was introduced in the Council on 27th February 1928.

(5) A Bill to amend the Madras District Municipalities Act, the Local Municipalities Act and the General Clauses Act (No. 5 of 1928) of Mr. J. A. Saldanha was introduced in the Council on 27th March 1928.

Changes in the Council

44. There were five by-elections caused by the resignation of elected members; the successors were returned unopposed. Special members were nominated to the Council for the consideration of the Madras University Act and Āndhra University Act (Amendment) Bills.

POLICE (1927)

[*Report on the administration of the Police of the Madras Presidency for the year 1927; Statistical Abstract for British India—Police*]

General

45. There was an increase in grave crime under all heads during the year. This was probably due to economic stress consequent on the failure of rains.

A gang of religious fanatics attacked the police station at Koilkuntla, compelling the police to open fire, with the result that the leader of the fanatics and several of his followers were killed. A number of others were arrested and eventually convicted of rioting and kindred offences. The action of the police was held to be justified both in the original and appellate courts.

In September 1927, the assistant armourer of the East Coast Special Police ran amok, and killed the havildar armourer and commandant of the force, finally shooting himself. As a result of a joint enquiry, the East Coast Special Police was disbanded. A rather threatening situation, arising in connexion with the mill troubles at Coimbatore, was tactfully handled and undesirable developments were averted.

The 1927 session of the National Congress was held at Madras and put a considerable amount of work on the local police and the C.I.D.

The oil strike in Madras City and the consequent troubles and incendiarism gave rise to some anxiety in May.

The problem of traffic control, both in the City of Madras and in the mufassal, is getting more and more important. Steps are being taken to draft a comprehensive scheme for dealing with this problem.

Proposals, with a view to effect better supervision and execution of work, for the re-allocation of the Trichinopoly district for a second time and for the bifurcation of the Madura district, are being considered by Government.

Strength

46. The sanctioned strength of the permanent force (exclusive of the East Coast Special Police and Malabar Special Police), on the last day of the

year, was 27,737, or 86 more than the corresponding figure for the previous year. The increase was chiefly due to the additions made to the strength of certain districts to supply escorts to the Postal department and to the policing of new railway lines opened by the South Indian Railway Company.

47. Recruitment was fairly easy. Preference was always given to ex-sepoys when suitable men were available. **Recruitment**

48. Casualties in the permanent force numbered 1,535 as against 1,742 in the previous year. The decrease was under all heads. **Casualties**

49. Though the number of deaths increased by eight, the percentage on the actual strength of the force remained the same. The percentage of admissions to hospitals fell from 125·7 to 122·8. The daily sick rate was 3·2. **Health**

50. All the eight probationers under training at the Provincial Police Training School, Vellore, at the beginning of the year, were posted to districts for practical training, with the exception of one probationary Deputy Superintendent of Police. Three probationers joined the school during the year. Sixty probationary mufassal sub-inspectors, three of the City Police, three of Pudukkottai and one of Coorg, together with two probationary inspectors, were under training at the beginning of the year. Nine were discharged and the balance passed out during the year. Six probationary inspectors and 81 sub-inspectors joined the school during the year. Two sub-inspectors resigned and the balance were under training at the end of the year. Many of the probationers were men who possessed degrees at an Indian University. **Education**

Twenty-one head constables and 1,448 constables were classed as illiterate.

The Central Recruits' School at Vellore opened the year with 167 recruits and received 364 recruits during the year. One hundred and fifty-two recruits left the force during the year as against 158 in the previous year. One hundred and ninety-eight recruits were trained and sent out to the districts, three were sent back and one sent

to the Central Recruits' School, Anantapur. The number of recruits on the rolls on the last day of the year was 177.

The Central Recruits' School, Anantapur, opened with 199 recruits and 428 were received during the year. Altogether 343 recruits were passed out as against 327 in the previous year. The number on the rolls on the last day of the year was 218.

The strength of the Central Recruits' School at Coimbatore at the beginning of the year was 196. Two hundred and eighty-eight recruits were received during the year and 297 were trained and sent out.

Discipline

Punishments and dismissals

51. The percentage of punishments for absences without leave fell from 3·2 in 1926 to 2·4 in the year under review, and for offences other than absence without leave from 6·3 to 6·0.

Dismissals fell from 203 in 1926 to 178 in the year under review. A sub-inspector was dismissed in the East Gōdāvari district for receiving illegal gratification. In Kurnool district, a sub-inspector, who earned three severe reprimands in the year, was dismissed.

Conviction of police officers

There was a further decrease in the number of police officers convicted by criminal courts—44 in the year under review as against 66 in 1926 and 82 in 1925. Twenty-six were convicted for offences committed in their official capacity and 18 for those committed in their private capacity. Convictions under the Police Act and under section 223 of the Indian Penal Code, during the year under review, numbered 2 and 16 respectively as against 6 and 14 in the previous year.

Rewards

The King's Police Medal was granted to three officers and two received bars to the medal during the year. One officer received the C.I.E. and four officers received Indian titles. A sum of Rs. 42,551 was distributed among 5,973 police officers for good work as against Rs. 33,109 among 4,650 police officers in 1926. A Deputy Superintendent of Police in Kurnool district was specially commended for the good work he did in suppressing the outbreak of grave crime by Chenchus. The Government sanctioned the acceptance of a reward

of Rs. 2,000 offered by the spinning and weaving mills of Coimbatore district for the good work done by the subordinate police during the mill strike. Free use was made of the system of granting certificates and letters of thanks to private individuals and village officers who helped the police. The number of police officers rewarded by promotion was five as against three in the previous year.

Accommodation

52. The number of police officers below the rank of inspector for whom quarters existed at the end of the year was 96 sergeants, 439 sub-inspectors, 1,950 head constables and 14,538 constables, the percentages on the sanctioned strength being 63·6, 30·4, 62·9, and 64·3, respectively.

Armed reserves

53. The armed reserves were maintained in an efficient condition except that the emergency forces were often not up to strength owing to a number of men absent on escort. In Guntūr, arrangements were made with the District Medical Officer to train the reserve in first aid. An ambulance team, drawn from the Kurnool district reserve, came first in the All-India St. John Ambulance competition held in Ajmere in January.

Special police

54. The abolition of the East Coast Special Police has been ordered by Government. There was no change in the sanctioned strength of the Malabar Special Police during the year.

Village police

55. The village magistrates have many responsibilities preventing them from devoting sufficient time and attention to matters dealing with the police. The work done by village officers, however, in this respect was as satisfactory as could be expected. During the year under report, 642 village officers, including talaiyaris were granted rewards amounting to Rs. 5,659 as against 452 officers and Rs. 3,722 in the preceding year. On the other hand, the number of village officers and talaiyaris punished at the instance of the police during the year was 597 and 160 as against 573 and 242 respectively in the previous year.

As the police talaiyaris scheme is reported to be of no practical advantage, its abolition has since been ordered.

56. The monsoon was unfavourable, as in the previous year. The prices of staple food grains were high as shown in the following statement and there was an increase in crime under all heads:—

Year.	Number of Government seers per rupee.			Grave crime (true cases).
	Rice.	Cholam.	Ragi.	
1923	6·0	10·4	9·8	32,955
1924	5·2	8·5	9·0	36,410
1925	5·2	9·4	8·8	33,476
1926	5·6	9·7	10·0	30,631
1927	5·4	8·5	9·1	31,580

Cognizable crime

The number of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code increased from 46,860 in 1926 to 48,183 in the year under review. Fifteen districts contributed to the increase. Offences under special and local laws decreased from 17,940 in 1926 to 17,412 in the year under review, and nuisances rose from 103,979 to 109,895.

Offences against person and property

Serious offences against person and property numbered 18,236 as against 17,521 in the previous year. The proportion was highest in Madras City, Kurnool and Madura.

Grave crime

There was an increase in grave crime from 30,631 cases in 1926 to 31,580 in the year under review. The increase, which occurred under all heads, was shared by sixteen districts, while the remaining districts showed a decrease. Crime in the Ceded districts showed an increase by 13·9 per cent. As has already been observed, the increase in crime was chiefly due to an unfavourable season. Several cases of grave crime in Kurnool district were due to out-of-view Chenchus. As a result of organized operations, seven were captured and two shot dead. A gang of five were still at large at the end of the year and efforts were being taken to arrest them. Gangs of out-of-view Irulas in South Arcot and Trichinopoly districts

were responsible for several cases of burglary. The gang was broken up by organized raiding parties. The conviction of a notorious levier of *tuppu coolie* and *kaval* fees, in Rāmnād district, has temporarily checked this pernicious practice.

Murder

There was an increase of 74 cases of murder during the year under review, over that of the previous year.

Social and communal movements

A riot in the Devara festival in Kotakandukuru village of Koilkuntla circle resulted in the conviction and sentence of 21 of the rioters. The Hindu-Muslim tension in Nellore continued during the year. The arrest of three leaders and the firm action taken by the police averted what, for a time, seemed likely to develop into a serious situation.

Dacoity

Dacoities numbered 268 as against 250 in the preceding year. A dangerous gang of Maravas in Rāmnād district was dispersed and four dacoits convicted and sentenced to various terms of imprisonment.

Counterfeiting coins and currency notes

True cases of offences against coinage and currency notes numbered 30 and 61 as against 26 and 95 in the preceding year.

Disturbances

In August 1927, there was a strike in the spinning and weaving mills at Coimbatore. Tactful handling of the situation by the police and the magistracy averted what appeared likely to develop into a rather serious situation. The strike ended in September. In the Malabar district, a band of thirty Valluvas attacked a police party and in the melée which ensued two Mappillas who assisted the police were killed. Considerable courage was displayed by the police and the Mappillas. In the Kurnool district, the members of a fanatical religious mutt in Koilkuntla circle attacked the police station at Koilkuntla, armed with deadly weapons. Fire had to be opened on them as a result of which seven were killed and twelve wounded. Twenty-six persons were charged and 25 convicted. The conviction was upheld on appeal.

Detection and prevention of crime

The statistics for detection over the whole Presidency show a result which is practically the same as in the previous year. Omitting nuisances and

cases in which investigation was refused, the percentage of true cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code which ended in conviction, to those disposed of during the year was 35·9 in the year under review as against 35·3 in 1926.

The district detective staffs, sanctioned tentatively in September 1926 for the districts of Salem and Anantapur, have put in a year of useful work.

False cases — The number of cases struck off as wilfully and maliciously false was 3,701 as against 3,456 in the previous year. Out of 146,132 cases prosecuted by the police, 73 were declared false after trial or enquiry.

Escapes — Escapes from police custody numbered 91 against 84 in the previous year. Sixteen of these were from sub-jails and two from police lock-ups. Seventy-six were recaptured, including those who had escaped in previous years.

C.I.D. — 57. The Criminal Investigation department dealt with cases of false personation, bogus banking, with a view to swindle public money, and note forgery. The Indian National Congress that met in Madras at the end of the year entailed a good deal of work. The two sub-inspectors who had been previously trained in the testing of counterfeit coins, were also trained in the investigation of currency-note forgery cases. Their services as experts were taken advantage of by various courts in the Presidency.

Shorthand Bureau — Periodical examinations were held for sub-inspectors with a view to ensure their efficiency.

Finger-print Bureau — The year started with 182,726 finger-print slips on record. During the year, 15,299 slips were received as against 21,189 in the previous year, making a total of 198,025 slips. There was an increase of over a thousand references dealt with by the Bureau in the year under review as against the figures in 1926.

Madras City Police — 58. Excluding gazetted officers, the sanctioned strength of the permanent force on the last day of the year was 2,043, or nine more than the figures of the previous year. Recruitment was satisfactory and no difficulty was experienced in securing the right stamp of men. Four hundred and nine

officers and men of the City Police were granted rewards amounting to Rs. 4,857. Rewards to the value of Rs. 1,346 were granted to private individuals. Eight officers received rewards offered by private individuals. The Collector of Customs granted rewards to seven officers and five men. The efficiency of the armed reserves was maintained.

Crime

The total number of cases of cognizable crime under the Indian Penal Code, excluding nuisances, decreased from 2,726 in 1926 to 2,520 in the year under review. There was a marked fall in crime, particularly in burglary and theft cases, due to the successful breaking up of the mufassal gangs that were operating in the City in 1925 and 1926.

Traffic control

The year shows that traffic control is becoming a most pressing problem and that it requires the employment of a special staff to work out a definite and comprehensive scheme for its solution. The number of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act investigated during the year was 4,509 as against 2,264 in the previous year. Prosecutions were instituted against 2,102 persons and, of these, 1,152 were convicted. Motor bus traffic is increasing in popularity and there were 554 buses plying at the end of the year.

Intelligence Department

In spite of heavy and exhausting work, the Intelligence department carried out its duties efficiently during the year.

Railway Police

59. The total number of thefts that occurred in the Railway Police districts in 1927 was 1,687 as compared with 1,475 in 1926. There were eight attempts to derail trains, four in the Madras Railway Police district and four in the Trichinopoly Railway Police district. Three hundred and twenty-nine persons were run over by trains and killed, as compared with 363 in the previous year.

Additional police

60. The additional police stationed in the Gooty taluk of the Anantapur district were disbanded on the 15th August 1927.

Port Police

61. The Port Police establishments at Cuddalore and Cocanada were maintained throughout the year.

Cost

62. The total cost of the Police department for the year 1927–28, excluding the final accounts for March 1928, was Rs. 1,56,57,220, as against Rs. 1,50,96,229 for the previous year.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE (1927)

[*Statistics of Criminal Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1927; Statistical Abstract for British India—Criminal Justice*]

63. On the 31st December 1927, there were in the Presidency the following criminal courts :—

The High Court, 29 sessions courts (including 3 for the Agency tracts) together with 4 additional sessions Judges, 26 district magistrates' courts, 2 additional district magistrates' courts, 3 presidency magistrates' courts, 100 sub-divisional magistrates' courts, 30 courts of assistant and deputy magistrates without divisional charges, 480 subordinate magistrates' courts (including 174 tahsildar-magistrates' courts), 200 benches of magistrates' courts (consisting of 1,457 honorary magistrates), 52 special magistrates' courts and 1 honorary magistrate's court.

In addition, the subordinate judges of 17 districts exercised the powers of an assistant sessions judge during the year. A new magisterial district called "Mettur district" was constituted with effect from 22nd November 1927, with its headquarters at Mettur.

Original cases

64. The total number of original cases instituted in the criminal courts during the year was 291,473, a decrease of 75,690 cases as compared with the previous year.

Village courts

The total number of cases filed in the village magistrates' courts rose from 3,894 to 3,921 in the year under review and the number of persons tried by these courts rose from 6,734 to 6,759. Of these, 12·53 per cent were convicted as against 26·64 in 1926. It should, however, be noted that, in 1926, accused persons in cases compounded or withdrawn

were classified as convicted. In the panchayat courts, 36,287 suits were instituted as against 34,551 in 1926 and the number of persons tried was 62,596 as against 60,233 in the previous year. The percentage of conviction in this class of court was 22·50 as against 30·18 in 1926. Here again the fall in the percentage is mainly due to the change in classification.

Bench courts

One hundred and twenty-eight thousand eighty-one persons were tried by bench courts, of whom 99,101 were convicted as compared with 119,144 and 88,215, respectively, in the previous year.

A new bench court was constituted in St. Thomas' Mount, in Chingleput district, in November 1927, and the courts at Piranmalai and Kallal in the Rāmnād district were abolished from the beginning of the third quarter of 1927.

Regular magistrates' courts

The total number of cases instituted in the regular magistrates' courts in the mufassal was 211,969 as against 202,064 in 1926. The average duration of cases before bench courts was 3 days, before special magistrates' courts 2, before sub-magistrates' courts 12, before deputy magistrates' 32, before assistant magistrates' 29, and before joint magistrates' 30. The system of fixing particular days of the week for trying police cases was introduced in most of the districts with satisfactory results on the whole.

Presidency magistrates' courts

The total number of cases instituted in the presidency magistrates' courts during the year was 37,655 as against 38,708 in 1926. Two hundred and twenty-four cases involving 385 persons were pending trial at the end of the year.

Sessions courts

The number of cases committed to sessions courts in the mufassal was 1,621. The largest number of committals were to the courts of Tinnevelly, Coimbatore and Madura. The total number of cases pending at the close of the year was 168 as against 173 in 1926. Of those actually tried, 53·36 per cent were acquitted and the percentage of conviction was 46·08 as compared with 46·35 in 1926.

The High Court

The total number of cases committed to the High Court sessions was 20 as against 29 in 1926. No case was pending at the end of the year. The

percentage of persons convicted to persons tried was 64·00 as against 84·85 in the previous year.

Appeals

Magistrates' courts

65. Of the persons convicted and sentenced by second and third-class magistrates, 10,458 appealed to first-class magistrates as against 10,006 in 1926. The percentage of successful appellants was 34·46 as against 35·25 in the previous year.

Sessions courts

Of the 9,124 persons convicted by first-class magistrates, 2,834 appealed to sessions courts as against 2,608 in the previous year. The appeals of 321 persons were pending at the end of 1927 as against 301 in 1926. The average duration of appeals disposed of in sessions courts was 40 days as against 38 days in the previous year. The percentage of successful appellants was 27·72 as against 23·21 in the previous year.

The High Court

The number of appeals to the High Court was 1,179 as against 1,258 in the previous year. The Government appealed against the acquittal of 58 persons as compared with 28 persons in 1926. Of the total of 68 persons concerned in appeals against acquittals (including 10 persons whose cases were pending from the previous year), the acquittals of 24 persons were upheld ; in the case of 13 persons, the acquittal was set aside and a conviction recorded; and in the case of 12, the acquittal was reversed and new trial ordered and 19 were pending at the end of the year. Appeals against convictions of 414 persons were rejected *in limine*. In the case of 306 persons, the findings and sentences were maintained after notice and, in the case of 134 persons, the sentences were reduced or otherwise altered. In the case of 141 persons the conviction was reversed ; new trial or further inquiry was ordered in the case of 28 persons and the appeals of 156 persons were pending at the close of the year as against 254 in 1926. The average duration of an appeal was 29 days as against 27 days in the previous year. The percentage of entirely successful appellants was 13·78 as compared with 13·15 in 1926.

Reference and revision

66. The number of applications for revision presented in the district magistrates' courts was 866 as against 700 in the previous year. The district magistrates took up 30 cases *suo motu* or on reports

from their subdivisional magistrates, as compared with 15 cases in 1926. In the sessions courts, 730 applications for revision were presented as compared with 739 in the previous year, and the number of cases taken up *suo motu* was 22 as against 34 in 1926. One thousand and sixty-one revision petitions were received in the High Court as against 1,016 in the previous year. Seventy-one cases were reported by district magistrates and sessions judges and 38 were taken up by the High Court *suo motu*. The number of petitions disposed of during the year under report was 1,014 and 281 were left pending at the end of the year.

The total number of persons under trial, during the year on a charge of murder (including those referred under section 374, Criminal Procedure Code), in the sessions courts was 1,339 and the number convicted was 363, of whom 356 were males. References in the case of 129 persons, sentenced to death, were disposed of by the High Court during the year. In the case of 84 persons, the convictions were upheld and the sentences confirmed. The sentence was commuted to transportation for life in the case of 11 persons, to rigorous imprisonment for a term of years in the case of 1 and 32 were acquitted. The conviction was reversed and new trial ordered in the case of one person. There was no case of reprieve by the local Government or the Government of India during the year under review. The total number of persons on whom sentence of death was passed finally or on whom sentence of death was passed and confirmed by the High Court was 86, as against 71 in the previous year.

67. One thousand two hundred and forty-six persons were tried by jury and the verdict was approved in the case of 1,203 persons. In the case of 39 persons, a reference was made to the High Court under section 307, Criminal Procedure Code, on the ground that the verdict of the jury was perverse. Of the cases referred to the High Court (including those pending from the previous year), the verdict of the jury was upheld in the case of 7 persons ; the verdict of the jury was set aside in the case of 15 persons and cases against 16 persons

Jury system

were left pending at the end of the year. The jury system is reported to have worked satisfactorily on the whole.

Assessors

68. The number of persons tried with the aid of assessors was 2,265. The judges agreed with all the assessors in the case of 1,186 persons, differed from one or more of them in the case of 658 persons, and differed from all of them in the case of 421 persons.

Punishments

69. The total number of sentences passed during the year was 241,632. The following table gives the nature of the sentences:—

Death	86
Transportation	196
Rigorous imprisonment	17,967
Simple imprisonment	16,793
Forfeiture of property	58
Fine	206,302
Whipping	230

The total amount of fines imposed was Rs. 11,68,772, of which a sum of Rs. 58,056 was paid to the complainants as compensation. Eight hundred and twenty-two persons were bound over to keep the peace. One thousand two hundred and eighty-two persons were ordered to give security for good behaviour. Proceedings had to be taken against 64 offenders for failure to observe the conditions of their recognizances.

Juveniles

70. Of the 228,931 persons convicted, 1,425 were boys and 239 were girls. The number of juvenile offenders was particularly large in four districts. Of the total number of juvenile offenders, 200 were discharged after admonition and 128 were delivered to their parents or guardians.

Miscellaneous

71. Of the 96,893 cases for disposal under the Indian Penal Code, 13,358 or 13·79 per cent were rejected under section 203, Criminal Procedure Code, as compared with 13·06 per cent in 1926. The majority of disposals under this section related to cases of criminal force and assault, hurt, theft, criminal intimidation, insult and annoyance and criminal trespass. The number of persons against whom compensation was awarded for frivolous and vexatious accusations under section 250, Criminal Procedure Code,

was 982, as compared with 1,276 in 1926. The percentage of conviction in cases tried under the Indian Penal Code was 40·04 as against 41·60 in the previous year.

72. The total receipts of civil and criminal courts in the Presidency in 1927 amounted to Rs. 1,61,00,867 and the charges to Rs. 97,06,397 leaving a surplus of Rs. 63,94,470. Finance

PRISONS (1927)

[*Report on the administration of the Jails of the Madras Presidency, 1927 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Prisons*]

73. The year was marked by a fall in the total prison population, an increase in the number of admissions of convicted prisoners and an increase in the cash earnings and in the assets of the manufactory department. General

74. During the year, there were ten central jails in the Presidency and five district jails, the status of the special sub-jail at Koraput having been raised to that of a district jail in May 1927. The Borstal School at Tanjore, hitherto classed as a special jail, being no longer a prison, under the Madras Borstal Schools Act, the number of special jails was reduced from 2 to 1. The number of subsidiary jails decreased from 314 to 313, a new sub-jail being opened at Yerragondapalem, the sub-jail at Gajapatinagaram being temporarily closed and the sub-jail at Koraput being raised in status to that of a district jail. The sub-jails at Anjengo and Tangasseri were transferred from the Malabar district to the Tinnevelly district in June 1927. Accommodation

75. The year opened with 18,805 prisoners of all classes. 88,186 were received and 88,762 discharged, leaving 18,229 in confinement at the close of the year. The daily average number confined declined from 18,938 to 18,476. The decrease is mainly due to the despatch of a large number of volunteer convicts to the Andamans for colonization. Prisoners of all classes

Convicts

At the beginning of the year, there were 15,722 male and 201 female convicts. 21,229 males and 830 females were received by direct committal, during the year, as compared with 21,036 males and 855 females respectively in the previous year. 24,308 convicts were received by transfer. Of those discharged during the year 2,518 were released on appeal, 14,375 on expiry of sentence and 5,634 under the remission rules. The number of convicts released by order of Government was 247. Four hundred and eight were transferred to the Andamans, 26 to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 3 escaped and remained uncaptured, 87 were executed and 257 died. At the end of the year 15,323 were in custody as compared with 15,923 in 1926. The daily average number of convicts was 15,646·61, or 481 less than in the previous year.

Undertrial prisoners

There were 1,935 prisoners of this class in confinement at the beginning of the year. 37,044 were received during the year. 2,033 undertrial prisoners remained in custody at the end of the year as compared with 1,935 in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the average period of detention before sessions courts and magistrates. There were 18 escapes and 14 deaths.

Civil prisoners

At the beginning of the year, there were 947 civil prisoners in custody, including 170 State prisoners. 4,775 were admitted during the year, 4,800 were discharged, 38 were transferred and 11 died leaving a population of 873 at the close of the year. The daily average increased from 777·24 to 780·15. Overcrowding of this class of prisoners continued to exist in certain jails, necessitating special arrangements.

State prisoners

The number of State prisoners in custody on 1st January 1927 was 170, and three were admitted during the year. Two of these were concerned in the Mappilla Rebellion and one detained under the Bengal State Prisoners Regulation of 1818. Fifty-three Mappilla State prisoners were discharged from jails for detention under police surveillance. One was convicted while in custody, four were transferred to other provinces and five died. There were 110 prisoners in custody

at the end of the year. Their behaviour on the whole was satisfactory.

Star class

This system of classification has justified itself. In all jails the classification is carefully carried out and is the means of separating the best of the casual class from the possible contaminating influences of the ordinary run of prisoners. Star class prisoners are provided with special accommodation and enjoy special privileges.

Special division

No special division prisoners were in custody during the year.

Habituals

There were 3,420 habitual convicts in custody at the beginning of the year and 3,155 were admitted, making a total of 6,575 out of a convict population of 31,368. The percentage comes to 20·96 as compared with 20·07 in the preceding year. Their conduct on the whole was satisfactory and the scheme of segregating the really incorrigible element of this class in separate habitual jails continued to work well.

Youthful offenders

The number of youthful offenders under the age of 15 years admitted to jails during the year fell from 16 to 6. Of these, one was released on bail, three girls were transferred to the Senior Certified School for girls, one was transferred to the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, and one was acquitted on appeal. It is satisfactory to note that the number of committals of juveniles was small and that magistrates are awakening to the necessity of dealing with juvenile delinquency apart from prisons.

Mental defectives

There were 72 mentally defective prisoners in custody at the beginning of the year and 29 were admitted during the year. Five were transferred to the Mental Hospital, Madras, 12 to other jails and 3 released in the ordinary course, leaving 81 at the close of the year. The concentration of mental defectives and recovered criminal lunatics in the District Jail, Cuddalore, was continued during the year and the scheme further elaborated and developed. Special additional accommodation for this class has been sanctioned and work is in progress.

Lepers

Sanction was accorded for the provision of additional accommodation in the leper annexe

at Salem. This enclosure continued to be overcrowded during the year, but adequate steps were taken to meet this contingency.

Religion of convicts

Of the 22,059 convicts admitted during the year, 86·84 per cent were Hindus, including Sikhs, 9·26 Muhammadans, 3·89 Christians and ·01 Buddhists and Jains. As compared with the figures of the previous year, the percentage of Hindus and Sikhs has decreased, while that of Muhammadans and Christians has slighty increased.

Escapes

76. There were 17 escapes during the year as against 16 during the preceding year. Of these, four were from inside and thirteen from outside the jails. Eighteen convicts were recaptured during the year including four who had escaped during previous years.

Offences and punishments

77. During the year, 3,029 offences were reported. Of these, 17 were dealt with by criminal courts and the rest by the superintendents of the jails concerned. 3,114 offences were reported in the previous year. The total number of punishments declined from 3,110 in 1926 to 3,029 in the year under review. The ratio per cent of punishments to average strength, however, rose slightly from 19·28 to 19·36, probably due to the smaller average number of convicts dealt with. Corporal punishment was inflicted on five persons as compared with six in the previous year. This form of punishment is used as a last resort. Four of the five punishments during the year were for assaults against prison officials.

Education

78. All prisoners under 30 years of age are given elementary education. Those over 30 who express a desire for learning are taught. Inspecting officers of the Educational department visited jail schools during the year and offered valuable assistance and advice. Honorary lecturers gave moral and religious instruction regularly and were much appreciated by the prisoners. Technical instruction was given as far as was possible. Ambulance and first aid training were further developed during the year, as also scoutcraft in adolescent institutions. Of those trained in ambulance, over 100 obtained first aid certificates

during the year and the Borstal team carried off the second prize in the competition for the Jagmal Raja Labour Ambulance Challenge Shield at Lahore. Each jail has a well-stocked library. Special lighting arrangements are made in the cells and blocks of literate prisoners to enable them to read between lock-up and sleeping time. Government have accepted the policy of lighting all jails by electric lights. Dramatic performances and magic lantern exhibitions were held from time to time and helped to relieve the monotony of prison life.

Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society

79. Nine hundred and eighty-eight discharged prisoners, including 257 ex-Borstal boys, were offered assistance by the Discharged Prisoners' Aid Society, as compared with 955 in the previous year. Of those assisted, 521 were provided with employment and 467 were given substantial help in other ways. The Borstal Association gave pecuniary help to the extent of over Rs. 500 to Borstal boys discharged during the year. It is encouraging to note that the number of probation officers now available is 863 as compared with only 587 in the preceding year. New branch committees were formed at Negapatam, Chingleput, Cuddapah, Guntūr and Mangalore. Sub-committees were appointed in several taluk headquarters. The good work done by the central society and the branch societies at Vellore, Coimbatore, Bellary and Tanjore need special mention. The branch at Tinnevelly has been stimulated into life by the activities of its new president and secretary. Paid agents were employed during the year at different centres. The membership of the society has increased. Discharged Prisoners' "Homes" are now established in Madras, Bellary and Salem and similar homes are about to be started at several district headquarters. It is obvious that the work of the society is gradually beginning to be appreciated not only by prisoners but also by the members of public.

Remission

80. The number of convicts released under the remission rules increased from 5,540 to 5,634. Only two convicts, entitled to the privileges of

the remission system, failed to earn remission. Extra remission for continuous good conduct was awarded to 6,891 convicts as against 8,105 in 1926. Special remission, for work turned out over and above the prescribed task, was granted to 953 convicts as compared with 752 in the previous year.

Advisory boards

81. Advisory boards, to consider the conditional release of prisoners were held on 23 occasions during the year. The scheme continues to work well. Three hundred and sixty-five cases were placed before the boards for consideration, of which 151 were recommended to Government for release. The Government sanctioned the release of 127, and 13 cases were pending the decision of Government at the end of the year. The system of release on licences is in force in the case of adolescents at the Borstal School. Under this system the boards recommended 121 for conditional release to Government, of whom 72 were discharged on being found suitable employment.

Diet

There was no change during the year in the prescribed diet scales, except in individual cases on medical recommendation. In the Alipuram Jail, the Mappilla prisoners continued to be given a meat ration twice weekly in lieu of a proportion of dhal and this resulted in a considerable saving.

Vital statistics and sanitation

82. In comparison with 1926, the figures of sickness and mortality show a considerable increase. The number of prisoners admitted into the hospital, the daily average sick and the number of deaths was 6,088, 275·32 and 282 as compared with 5,552, 266·56 and 217 respectively in 1926. The death rate per mille of average strength rose from 11·46 in the previous year to 15·26. Even this figure, however, compares favourably with the average death rate for the Presidency (free population) which was 24·3. There were four deaths from cholera in sub-jails. It is a source of satisfaction that this disease was excluded from central and district jails, even though cholera was prevalent in many districts in which these jails are situated. Two cases of accidental death occurred in the central jails at Salem and Bellary. The high mortality in the Mappilla jail was due to

the death from old age of a large number of Mappillas and was not caused by any undue sickness in the jail.

The figures relating to the weighment of prisoners were better in the year under review than in the previous year.

The majority of jails get their water-supply from wells, all of which are protected against accidents and contamination, and are periodically cleaned and hankinized. Drinking-water is carefully sterilized by chlorination and tests are systematically carried out to ensure efficient sterilization. There was acute water scarcity at Salem, Vellore and Bellary during the hot weather months, but it was found possible to provide for all requirements. Numerous improvements were effected in the water-supply, drainage, sanitation and cooking arrangements of certain jails during the year.

Bathing stations fitted with cubicles were constructed and brought into use in seven jails.

Jail visitors

83. There was a further increase in the total number of visits paid by official and non-official visitors during the year. This points to a growing interest in prison administration and the reclamation of the offender. Non-official visitors included ladies and gentlemen who lectured and spoke about moral and religious subjects. Official visitors included the Director of Industries and his staff who gave valuable technical assistance in connexion with the management of jail industries and finance.

Finance

84. Excluding the outlay on jail buildings by the Public Works department and the expenditure relating to certified schools, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 28,28,085 as against Rs. 26,83,077 in the year 1926. The increased expenditure is mainly accounted for by the heavy charges incurred in the diet and cost of establishment. The total expenditure on diet for the year amounted to Rs. 11,50,183 as against Rs. 10,55,832 in the previous year. The increased expenditure was due to the unfavourable rates paid for foodstuffs in all jails. Deducting the charges against manufacture, general supervision, construction and repairs, travelling

allowance of gazetted establishment and some other items, the total expenditure amounted to Rs. 23,56,483 as compared with Rs. 21,77,462 in the previous year. The total value of earnings by manufacture in jails was Rs. 8,39,795 as compared with Rs. 7,82,500 in the previous year. The net cash earnings of convicts rose from Rs. 4,21,687 to Rs. 5,05,872.

Borstal School, Tanjore

85. The number of inmates detained in the Tanjore Borstal School at the end of 1926 was 472. Four hundred and fifty-six were received during the year, 297 released, 34 transferred, 2 escaped and remained at large, and 2 died, leaving 593 under detention at the end of the year. At the modified Borstal section at Palamcottah, there were 238 Mappilla and non-Mappilla adolescents at the beginning of the year. Sixty-seven were received during the year, 53 discharged or transferred and 255 remained at the end of the year. The Borstal Act came into operation in this Presidency on 1st March 1927, and 290 cases were dealt with under the Act during the year. These Borstal institutions are working satisfactorily and helping to turn out young men fit in every respect for social freedom and capable of earning an honest livelihood.

CERTIFIED SCHOOLS

[*Report on the working of the Certified Schools for the year 1927*]

86. At the beginning of the year, there were seven certified schools under the Madras Children Act, viz., the Senior Certified School at Chingleput, the Junior Certified School at Rānipēt, the Junior Certified School at Rajahmundry and four aided private certified schools (two at Madras, one at Vellore and one at Velacheri). The senior certified schools are set apart for the training of youthful offenders up to the age of 18. The junior certified schools are intended for the reception and housing of children dealt with under the Children Act, the period of detention being up to the age of 16.

There were 381 pupils (375 boys and 6 girls) on the rolls at the beginning of the year. Two hundred and eighty-seven (258 boys and 29 girls) were admitted during the year and 128 (123 boys and 5 girls) discharged, leaving a total of 510 boys and 30 girls on the rolls at the end of the year. Of the pupils admitted during the year, 220 boys and 29 girls were committed to school custody ; 9 boys were received by transfer from jails and sub-jails ; 4 boys were received by transfer from reformatory schools outside the province ; 10 boys were received by transfer from certified schools within the province ; 9 were escapees recommitted after apprehension ; 4 were recommitted after their licences were revoked ; and 2 were returned from outside hospitals after treatment.

Sixty-two boys and 4 girls were received into the Remand Home attached to the Madras Children's Aid Society.

87. The pupils in the Chingleput school are taught up to the 6th standard, those at Rānipēt up to the 4th class and the children in other schools are taught how to read and write. Besides this, children are given a sound vocational training in all manner of subjects like smithy, weaving, dyeing, metal work, tailoring, laundry, masonry, gardening, agriculture and music. **Education of pupils**

The scout movement is making satisfactory headway in all the Government certified schools and appears to have an influence on the general bearing and discipline of the boys. Ambulance and first aid training formed part of the curriculum in Government certified schools. Care is taken to see that boys and girls are brought up on sound principles according to their respective religious beliefs. Physical training and games received special attention in all the schools.

The training is on the whole comprehensive and complete and every endeavour is made to educate and reform the children to become industrious and law-abiding citizens.

88. The health of the Government schools was on the whole satisfactory and clean mortality sheets were returned by all the schools. There **Vital statistics**

was a mild outbreak of modified smallpox in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, which caused no particular harm. The health of the private certified schools was also satisfactory.

Drinking water in all the Government certified schools is chlorinated before use. The private schools at Madras obtain their water from the Corporation pipe supply. Various improvements were made in the drainage, sanitation and cooking arrangements of some of the schools during the year.

Accommodation

89. The total accommodation available for all the schools was 707. There was overcrowding in the Senior Certified School, Chingleput, and special arrangements had to be made to house excess pupils. As it is anticipated that there will be an increased number of commitments under the Children Act in future, steps are being taken to increase the accommodation.

After-care report

90. Considerable improvement was effected during the year in the organization of the after-care of discharged pupils, as a result of which it was possible to render substantial assistance to a great many pupils on discharge.

Visits

91. Several distinguished officials and non-officials visited the schools during the year and took a special interest in the treatment of juveniles at these institutions.

Finance

92. The total expenditure in respect of the three Government schools amounted to Rs. 1,08,182. The grant given to private certified schools was Rs. 9,343. The total cash earnings of the three Government certified schools amounted to Rs. 9,174.

CIVIL JUSTICE (1927)

[*Statistics of the Civil Courts in the Madras Presidency for the year 1927—Statistical Abstract for British India—Civil Justice*]

General Courts

93. On the 31st December 1927, there were in the Presidency the following permanent civil courts:—

The High Court, the Presidency Court of Small Causes, the City Civil Court, 29 district courts (including three for Agency tracts), 44 subordinate judges' courts (including seven for Agency tracts and one revenue officer exercising the powers of a subordinate judge), 2 special small cause courts, 173 district munsifs' courts (including 22 for Agency tracts and five revenue officers exercising the powers of district munsifs), and 127 revenue courts.

Administrative changes

There were in addition six temporary subordinate judges' courts and 2 temporary district munsifs' courts. Besides these, there were 18 sub-judges and 23 district munsifs attached to permanent courts under the Amended Civil Courts Act. Sixteen subordinate judges were invested with the powers of assistant sessions judge during the year under review. The sub-court of West Tanjore was divested of assistant sessions powers. A second additional sessions judge was posted at Coimbatore and an additional sessions judge at Rāmnād. In addition, the additional sessions judge of Rāmnād was invested with the powers of a subordinate judge during the year under review. The appointments of five additional subordinate judges and one sub-court were abolished during the course of the year. The appointments of five additional district munsifs were abolished during the year. The additional district munsif's court, Guntūr, was located at Gurzala during the year and the district munsifs' courts of Anjengo and Tangasseri were transferred from the South Malabar district to the Tinnevelly district without, however, making any change in their local jurisdiction.

Litigation

94. The number of suits instituted during 1927 in the courts of the Presidency, including village and panchayat courts, was 561,530 as General

against 593,428 in 1926. For the Presidency as a whole, one suit was instituted for every 75 persons of the population as compared with 71 persons in 1926. The ratio for the Presidency town was one for every 31 persons. The following table shows the nature of the suits instituted during the year :—

	1926.	1927.
Suits for money or movable property	520,913	483,065
Suits for immovable property, other than mortgage suits.	19,890	21,387
Mortgage suits	24,212	24,267
Suits for specific relief ...	4,046	3,495
Suits in revenue courts ...	22,822	27,112

Value of suits

The value of suits instituted in 1927 in courts, other than village panchayat and revenue courts, was Rs. 1,027 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,129 lakhs in 1926. The average value of a suit was slightly less than in the previous year.

Plaintiffs succeeded in obtaining decrees for the whole or part of the relief claimed by them in 79·66 per cent of the suits disposed of during the year under report as compared with 80·64 in the previous year.

The total number of appeals preferred in 1927 was 16,572 or 935 more than in the previous year. The average for the five years ending with 1925 was 16,426.

Original jurisdiction

95. The total number of suits instituted in village courts was 79,724, as against 82,669 in 1926. The number of suits disposed of rose from 82,409 in 1926 to 82,461 in the year under review.

Village munsifs' courts

Village panchayat courts

The number of suits instituted in panchayat courts was 158,558, as compared with 181,475 in 1926. The number of suits disposed of was 162,556, as against 177,967 in 1926. The total number of suits transferred by district munsifs to village and panchayat courts fell from 1,856 in 1926 to 1,505 in the year under review.

Revenue courts

The number of suits filed in revenue courts, other than in the Agency tracts, rose from 22,581 to 27,024. The most marked increase was in Rāmnād. The number of disposals increased from

23,830 to 25,797. There was a noticeable rise in the number of suits left pending at the end of the year. The average duration of contested suits was 229 days, as compared with 312 days in the previous year. The percentage of appeals preferred against the decisions of revenue courts to the appealable decrees passed by them rose from 4·07 in 1926 to 5·41 in 1927.

Agency courts

The number of suits instituted in Agency courts fell from 1,723 in 1926 to 1,507 in the year under review. One thousand six hundred and eighteen suits were disposed of during the year, leaving 384 pending at its close, as compared with 502 in the previous year.

District munsifs' courts

The total number of suits instituted during the year in the district munsifs' courts, other than those in the Agency tracts, was 108,983, as against 115,924 in 1926. Four districts showed an increase, the increase being most marked in Trichinopoly. There was a rise in the number of small cause suits instituted and a corresponding rise in the disposals. The average duration of contested ordinary suits rose from 296 to 309, while the average duration of contested small cause suits was 97 as compared with 92 days in 1926. The percentage of appeals to appealable decrees passed by the district munsifs' courts was 10·72, as against 9·93 in the previous year.

Special small cause courts

10,409 small cause suits were filed in the year, as against 11,426 in the previous year. There was a corresponding fall in disposals and in the number of suits left pending at the end of the year.

Subordinate judges' courts

The number of ordinary suits instituted in subordinate judges' courts in the year was 3,137, as against 2,957 in 1926. Marked increases occurred in Madura and Guntūr. There was a small increase in the number of disposals and of suits pending at the close of the year. 23,650 small cause suits were instituted, as compared with 27,979 in 1926. There was a corresponding decrease in the number of disposals during the year and the number of suits pending at its close. The average duration of contested original suits in subordinate judges' courts was 567 days, as against 552 days in 1926, and the average duration of

contested ordinary suits exceeded 250 days in all courts except those at Ootacamund. The average duration of contested small cause suits was 168 days, as compared with 137 days in 1926.

District courts

In the district courts, excluding the courts in the Agency tracts, 541 original suits were instituted, as against 524 in 1926. The average for the quinquennium ending with 1925 was 518. The disposals fell from 410 to 393, while the number of suits pending at the close of the year rose from 532 to 605. The average duration of contested suits in the district courts was 521 days, as against 579 in 1926.

City Civil Court

In the Madras City Civil Court, 873 suits were instituted, as against 700 in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of suits disposed of and a decrease in the number pending at the close of the year. The average duration for contested suits fell from 293 days in 1926 to 228 days in 1927.

Presidency Court of Small Causes

In the Presidency Court of Small Causes, the number of suits filed was 15,424, as against 16,148 in 1926, the average for the five years ending with 1925 being 17,059. There was a fall in the number of suits disposed of, while the number pending increased.

The High Court

There were 685 suits filed in the High Court of Judicature in the year under review, as compared with 780 in 1926. The decrease was largely noticeable under the heads "suits for money or movable property" and "mortgage suits". The total number of suits for disposal, including those pending at the close of the previous year, together with suits received on transfer, was 1,617, as compared with 1,937 in 1926. Seven hundred and forty-seven suits were disposed of, as against 1,036 in 1926, and the arrears fell from 901 to 870. The average duration of contested suits was 560 days, as against 661 days in the previous year.

Insolvency petitions.

96. The number of insolvency petitions presented to the mufassal courts was 4,245, as against 3,865 in the previous year. The number of such petitions presented in the High Court also rose from 503 to 551.

Appellate courts

Agency tracts

97. The number of regular appeals filed in the Agency tracts fell from 126 to 117. One hundred and nineteen appeals were disposed of during the year.

District and subordinate judges' courts

In the district and subordinate judges' courts, the number of appeals instituted was 12,603, as against 12,374 in 1926. The number of regular appeals disposed of by subordinate judges was 6,185, as against 6,950 in 1926. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 430 days in the case of contested appeals. Five thousand eight hundred and seventeen regular appeals were disposed of by district judges, as against 4,806 in the previous year. The average duration of appeals disposed of was 427 days in the case of contested appeals.

The High Court

The following table illustrates the situation in regard to disposal of appeals by the High Court:—

	Number preferred during		Number disposed of during		Number pending at the end of		Average duration in days.	
	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927	1926	1927
From original decrees of mufassal courts	373	448	362	343	1,346	1,451	869	674
From orders of mufassal courts ...	471	524	436	509	747	762		
From decrees passed on the Original Side of the High Court	124	101	129	134	136	103		
From decrees of the City Civil Court ...	49	60	154	44	53	69		
Letters Patent appeals (other than Original Side appeals)	428	329	199	245	479	563		
Appeals against appellate decrees...	1,984	2,468	1,645	1,463	3,791	4,796	756	868
Appeals against appellate orders ...	135	250	180	157	230	323		

The percentage of appeals dismissed was as follows:—First appeals from district courts 77·53, from subordinate judges' courts 66·33, from the City Civil Court 70·45, from the original side 73·88, second appeals 81·60 and Letters Patent appeals 86·53.

Appeals to the Privy Council

At the beginning of the year, there were 36 applications for leave to appeal to His Majesty in Council, pending before the High Court. Fifty-two applications were received during the year. Of the total number of applications for leave, 34 were rejected ; leave was granted in 22 applications and 32 were pending at the end of the year. In the Privy Council in England, 30 appeals were pending in the previous year, and 13 were newly admitted. Of the total of 43 appeals for disposal, 4 were dismissed by the Privy Council with costs and 7 were allowed, leaving 32 appeals pending at the close of the year.

Reference and revision

98. There was an appreciable rise in the number of revision petitions presented to the High Court from 1,170 in 1926 to 1,943 in the year under review. Of this number, 817 were for the revision of decisions in small cause suits. There was a considerable increase in the number of petitions disposed of. Of the total number of petitions disposed of, 69·52 per cent were dismissed, as against 80·35 per cent in 1926. The number of cases referred to the High Court by lower courts, the Commissioner of Income-tax and the Board of Revenue was 21. Of the total number of 49 cases for disposal, 20 were disposed of under the Income-tax Act, 5 under the Indian Divorce Act, 1 under the Civil Procedure Code and 1 under the District Municipalities Act.

Execution applications

Mufassal courts

99. The total number of applications for execution received in all courts in the mufassal taken together, except village and panchayat courts, was 368,924 as compared with 367,307 in 1926. There was a corresponding increase in the number of applications disposed of. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 21·96 per cent of the applications disposed of and in part in 9·51 per cent. The total amount realized in execution was Rs. 2,18,30,490, as against Rs. 1,92,40,072 in the previous year. The total number of debtors imprisoned in execution was 3,966, as against 3,782 in 1926.

Madras courts

The total number of applications for execution received during 1927 in the City Civil Court, Presidency Court of Small Causes and the High Court

was 17,993, as against 17,400 in 1926. Satisfaction was obtained in full in 10·63 per cent of the applications as against 11·80 per cent in 1926. Satisfaction was obtained in part in 9·79 per cent, as against 7·66 per cent in the previous year. The amount realized in executions was Rs. 2,02,614, as against Rs. 2,36,523 in 1926. One hundred and sixty-nine judgment-debtors were imprisoned, as against 137 in 1926.

Processes

100. In the mufassal courts, other than village and panchayat courts, 3,011,618 processes were executed. The average for each amin was 206 and for a peon was 382, as compared with 207 and 377 respectively in 1926. The total receipts from the execution of processes were Rs. 23,17,438 and charges amounted to Rs. 19,96,655, leaving a surplus of Rs. 3,20,783.

Legal practitioners

101. At the end of the year, there were, on the rolls of the High Court, 264 advocates, 2,498 vakils and 79 attorneys ; and, in the mufassal courts, there were 4,023 first-grade pleaders and 767 second-grade pleaders. Six attorneys, 7 advocates, 126 vakils and 361 first-grade pleaders were newly admitted in the course of the year.

Finance

102. The total receipts of civil, criminal and revenue courts in the Presidency in 1927 amounted to Rs. 1,61,00,867 and the charges to Rs. 97,06,397, leaving a surplus of Rs. 63,94,470. The expenditure by the Public Works department was Rs. 3,15,669, of which Rs. 58,715 was spent on repairs. The cost of printing done in the Government Press was Rs. 2,64,928 and of stationery supplied Rs. 71,618. The number of civil courts working in rented buildings was 33 and a sum of Rs. 27,726 was spent on rent in 1927.

REGISTRATION AND COMPANIES

[*Report on the administration of the Registration Department for the year 1927; Report on the working of the Indian Companies Act, 1913, the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912, and the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, for the year 1927–28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Registration and Joint Stock Companies*]

Registration (1927)

Administrative changes

103. There was no change in the number of district charges or of district registrars. Seven new sub-offices were opened from June 1927. The appointment of an additional sub-registrar and the continuance of three temporary sub-offices was sanctioned during the year under review. The appointment of a temporary sub-registrar in the head office was made permanent and extension of the appointment of the joint sub-registrar at Chidambaram was also sanctioned. As a consequence of the abovementioned changes, the number of separate sub-offices, including ex-officio offices, rose from 546 to 553 in the year under review and the number of sub-registrars from 602 to 608. The continuance of the itinerating system of registry at Kudatini in the Bellary district was also sanctioned. Readjustments of jurisdiction were effected in 13 districts. The two ex-officio offices at Anjengo and Tangasseri were transferred from the registration district of Palghat to that of Tinnevelly.

Registrations

The total number of documents registered reached the figure of 1,474,977, which is the highest on record since the year 1920. As compared with 1926, there was an increase of 5·80 per cent. The increase was general throughout the Presidency except in six districts. The decrease in Kurnool was due to the revival of groundnut and cotton trade, while in South Kanara it was caused by the fall in prices of arecanut and rice. The increase in other districts was mainly due to (*a*) the increased activities of the co-operative societies, (*b*) unfavourable agricultural seasons and (*c*) high price of foodstuffs.

Compulsory registrations rose by 5·97 per cent.

The total value of registered transactions rose from Rs. 63·88 crores in 1926 to Rs. 69·16 crores in the year under review.

Applications for encumbrance certificates numbered 101,862 in 1927 as against 89,775 in 1926. It is clear that the public are consulting registration records in an increasing number. Searches

Documents registered by or on behalf of co-operative societies rose from 39,616 in 1926 to 66,928 in the year under review, and searches from 11,303 to 15,667.

The total income rose from Rs. 39·25 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 41·18 lakhs in the year under review. The income from fees for registering documents rose from Rs. 31·11 lakhs to Rs. 32·62 lakhs. The income derived from searches and granting of copies rose from Rs. 6·65 lakhs to Rs. 7·14 lakhs. The expenditure rose from Rs. 27·82 lakhs to Rs. 29·23 lakhs. The surplus income over expenditure was Rs. 11·85 lakhs in the year under review. All but two districts paid their way. Finance

104. At the beginning of the year there were at work 745 companies, 662 with and 83 without share capital. Sixty-four companies were registered during the year and 70 were either wound up or struck off the register. One company that was struck off was restored to the register under the orders of the High Court. As a result, there were 740 companies at the close of the year, 658 with and 82 without share capital. **Registered companies (1927-28)** The Indian Companies Act

In comparison with the year 1917-18, the number of joint-stock companies in every class of business has nearly doubled itself during the decade ; that of banking and loan companies has increased nearly by 80 per cent ; while trading and industrial concerns have increased by nearly 100 per cent.

Trade conditions showed signs of improvement and business increased, so that, in the matter of new registrations, the year proved better than its predecessor, the number being 64 as against 52 Banking concerns were able to find employment for their money to a greater extent than in the preceding year. The new registrations comprise 15 banking and loan companies, 38 trading and industrial concerns and 11 miscellaneous companies. A feature of the recent years is the New companies

number of companies which afford protection to particular communities, and another noticeable feature of the new registrations is the formation of corporate bodies for undertaking the supply of electric current to important towns. Yet another remarkable feature is the registration of two companies with a view to improve agriculture.

One of the largest flotations during the year was the formation of a company in the Madura district with an authorized capital of Rs. 27 lakhs for promoting the interests of the cardamom traders. A company, with an authorized capital of Rs. 8 lakhs, has been formed with a view to manufacture and trade in matches. The new National Live-stock Registration Bank, Limited, with an authorized capital of Rs. 5 lakhs formed with a view to carry on the business of live-stock insurance, is the only company of its kind in the Presidency.

Private companies

Twenty-four new companies were registered during the year and 12 either wound up or removed from the register. The total number of private companies rose from 135 in the previous year to 147 in the year under review.

Capital

Thirteen companies increased their authorized capital by Rs. 24,52,670 and three companies reduced their capital by Rs. 18,11,848. The maximum increase in the authorized capital was Rs. 9 lakhs by the Tanjore Permanent Fund, Limited, and the maximum decrease of nearly Rs. 12 lakhs was in the Tinnevelly Mills Company, Limited.

Companies that ceased to exist

The number of companies that ceased to exist was 70 as against 68 in the previous year. Of these 19 went into voluntary liquidation, 4 into compulsory liquidation and 47 were removed from the register as defunct. Companies of the class, "transit and trading" contributed the largest to the number of failures.

Auditors

The number of certified auditors rose from 74 in 1926 to 83 in 1927, as a result of the grant of fourteen fresh unrestricted permanent certificates to the holders of the Bombay Government Diploma in Accountancy, and the death of two unrestricted and three restricted certificate holders.

Finance

The receipts amounted to Rs 24,015 as compared with Rs. 21,744 in the previous year. The rise was due to the larger number of new registrations during the year.

One new society registered itself with the result that the number of societies rose from 14 to 15.

Provident insurance societies

The number of companies falling within the purview of the Indian Life Assurance Companies Act, 1912, remained six, as in the previous year.

Notaries Public (1927-28)

105. The number of registering officers who exercised the functions of a Notary Public remained the same (199) as in the preceding year. There were 162 transactions during the year amounting in value to Rs. 2,82,479, as compared with 149 transactions amounting to Rs. 1,77,740 in the previous year. The number of bills of exchange dealt with rose from 119 to 153, while the number of promissory notes operated on fell from 30 to 9. The increase under bills of exchange occurred in ten districts and was marked in Guntūr and Palamcottah. The increase is apparently due to the stringency of money markets and to the stricter enforcement of the rules as to noting by the Imperial Bank of India. The decrease occurred in ten districts and was appreciable in South Kanara and Palghat. The decrease under promissory notes occurred in eight districts and was heaviest in South Kanara. The fees realized during the year declined from Rs. 640-6-0 to Rs. 633-11-0, as a result of the decrease in the number of protests.

CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES

(1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Report on the working of the Co-operative Societies Act (II of 1912) for the year 1927-28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Co-operative Societies*]

General

106. A committee was appointed in September 1927 to examine the progress made by the co-operative movement. The committee toured in

October and November throughout the Presidency and finished its work in January 1928.

Arrangements were made for a systematic inspection by deputy registrars of the central banks in their jurisdiction twice a year. Systematic inspection of the assistant registrars' offices was directed to be carried out by the deputy registrars and a questionnaire was prescribed. Government sanctioned the retention of the post of joint registrar for a further period of one year, from 1st April 1928. On the last day of the year, there were eleven deputy registrars as against nine in the previous year. The appointment of four additional deputy registrars was sanctioned temporarily. Honorary assistant registrars were appointed, during the year, for the supervision of societies for depressed and backward classes and for special types of non-credit societies. Considerable additions to the establishment were made during the year.

The total cost of work under the Co-operative Societies Act, during the year, was Rs. 7·73 lakhs. This represents 50 per cent of the total working capital as compared with 55 in the previous year.

Progress

107. Favourable agricultural conditions in the Circars and on the West Coast were responsible for the collection of dues to societies over this area, except Malabar district.

Expansion and consolidation

The work of consolidating existing societies was being attended to during the year. One thousand one hundred and twelve agricultural societies were registered during the year. Expansion and consolidation generally proceeded together. The districts which showed the greatest expansion were North Arcot, South Arcot, Chingleput, Ganjām and Tinnevelly. In the districts of South Kanara, Chittoor, Madras, Nilgiris and the Ceded districts, more attention was paid to the rectification of existing societies than to expansion by the organization of new societies. The districts of Tinnevelly and Coimbatore were affected by drought and special staffs were sanctioned to overhaul societies in affected taluks, to organize new societies and to afford credit facilities to the ryots.

There were 13,357 societies of all classes at the beginning of the year. One thousand two hundred and sixty were registered during the year and the registration of 107 societies was cancelled, with the result that there were 14,510 societies of all classes on the last day of the year under review, as compared with 13,357 societies at the end of the previous year. Most of the societies registered during the year were agricultural societies (1,112). Number of societies

The total number of members in all societies at the close of the year, excluding local supervising unions, audit unions and district federations, was 898,186 as compared with 830,522 in the previous year. Of these, 539,699 were classed as agriculturists, 259,151 as non-agriculturists and 99,336 as partly dependent on agriculture. The average membership per society was 64 as in the previous year. The percentage of society membership to the population of the Presidency was 2·1 as compared with 1·94 in the previous year. Membership

The total working capital of all societies at the close of the year was Rs. 1,522·97 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1,334·34 lakhs in the previous year. The total working capital employed in the movement, excluding investments of one society in another, amounted to Rs. 820·94 lakhs as compared with Rs. 727·35 lakhs in the previous year. The working capital was made up as follows:— Working capital of societies

	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital of individuals.	157·17
Deposits of individuals and institutions	565·24
Reserve fund	69·62
Loans from Government	28·91
Total ...	820·94

Of the above amount, owned capital (Rs. 226·79 lakhs) represented 28·1 per cent of the net working capital as against 27·1 in the previous year.

As regards the payments by primary societies to central banks, there was a marked improvement in the collection of current interest while the percentage of arrears under principal due increased from 20·18 in the previous year to 22·50 in the year Collection

under report. As regards repayments from members to their societies, the position in the year under review was slightly better than that in the previous year, both under principal and interest. Arrear interest in non-agricultural societies stood at 48·20 per cent. Good work was done in the collection of arrears by the special staff employed in certain districts by federations for rectification work in dormant societies.

Central banks

The number of central banks remained at 32 during the year. Special deposits by local boards, municipalities, etc., formed 35 per cent of the total working capital of the central banks. Certain restrictions were imposed on the receipt of deposits by central banks from the local bodies in order to prevent competition among them. Central banks were urged to employ paid secretaries in the place of honorary officers.

District federations

As in the previous year, there were 19 district federations in the Presidency. It was since decided to register two federations in the Ganjām district. Proposals to form a federation for the area covered by the Tanjore District Bank, Kumbakōnam, are under consideration. A federation has been since registered for the Tinnevelly district. One of the outstanding features of the year was the attempt made to cope with the growing tide of overdues by the improvement of supervision. The need for co-operative supervision brought the supervising unions into existence in 1915 and they were gradually developed and extended until now they cover practically the whole Presidency. Certain necessary changes in the model by-laws of primary societies, central banks, unions and district federations were found essential and these were communicated to the several bodies for acceptance. Only seven out of the nineteen federations have at present any direct control over the entire supervision fund of the district. It is hoped that the other federations will soon amend their by-laws. Rectification work with special grants from central banks was carried out particularly by the federations at Conjeeveram, Coimbatore, Vellore, South Kanara, Madura and South Arcot.

The Madras Provincial Co-operative Union, Ltd., continued the publication of the Madras Bulletin of Co-operation in English and Tamil. The Provincial Conference was held under its auspices at Rajahmundry and the union conducted a training class for co-operative workers at which 43 candidates underwent training and 36 passed. The Hood Co-operative Institute, Tanjore, conducted two training classes for supervisors and inspectors during the year. Rural training classes for educating panchayatdars of societies were held in twelve centres. Another feature of the year's working was the institution of regular classes at different centres to give instructions to the paid staff of co-operative workers. Provincial union

The year commenced with 388 unions, including propagandist unions, federations and audit unions. Twenty-six unions were registered during the year, bringing the total to 414 at the end of the year. Eleven thousand five hundred and forty-four primary societies, with a membership of 739,928, were affiliated to the unions as against 10,709 societies with 664,653 members at the end of the previous year. The total working capital of the affiliated societies rose from Rs. 634·14 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 714·52 lakhs in the year under review. Local supervising unions

Trading activities were carried out by agricultural primary credit societies as agents for the joint purchase of the agricultural, domestic and other requirements of its members and for the joint sale of their produce. The total purchases as owner were Rs. 25·41 lakhs as against Rs. 25·13 lakhs in the previous year, and the sales as owner amounted to Rs. 26·66 lakhs as compared with Rs. 25·53 lakhs in the preceding year. The societies, formed with a view to advance loans on crops in godowns to ryots, worked successfully during the year. Trading societies

There were 57 labour contract societies at the beginning of the year. Three societies of this kind were added during the year, bringing the total to 60 at the end of the year with 3,746 members. These societies secured contracts for Rs. 2,37,563 during the year and they actually Labour contract societies

completed work valued at Rs. 3,16,727 as compared with Rs. 3,03,130 for the previous year. A sum of Rs. 2,48,894 was paid as wages. The societies in the Tanjore and Trichinopoly districts took up contract works and were able to complete works worth Rs. 2,09,564 and Rs. 47,856 respectively during the year.

Land reclamation societies

There were nine reclamation societies as in the previous year. Inclusive of 123 acres reclaimed during the year, the total extent cleared comes to 737 acres. In January 1928, Government sanctioned a scheme to dig high level channels to obviate the necessity of clearing land to the original level.

Land mortgage banks

There were eighteen land mortgage banks at the end of the year, as against ten in the previous year. The number of members on the last day of the year was 1,024 with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 60,787.

Irrigation societies

There were eight societies for carrying out kudimaramat work and nine for the purpose of irrigation. The pump irrigation societies are eligible for long-term loans from Government for the installation of plant and machinery. A society in the South Arcot district was given a loan of Rs. 2,700 for this purpose. In February 1928, the Government laid down the procedure to be followed in the execution of kudimaramat works of the co-operative societies.

Milk supply societies

Nine more milk supply societies were added during the year to the eleven that were in existence at its beginning. They were confronted with the difficulty of transport of milk to Madras. These societies formed themselves into a union and approached the Madras Corporation and the Government for financial help. The union was sanctioned a loan of Rs. 15,000 for the purchase of lorries, milk cans and cream separators. Thirty-one thousand Madras measures of milk worth Rs. 15,500 were sold by the societies during the year. To ensure the purity of the milk supplied, the members of each village society bring their animals to a central place where milking is strictly supervised by a superintendent appointed by the union.

An impetus was given during the year to the formation of co-operative societies for students. There were 46 such societies at the end of the year as compared with 26 in the previous year. There were 2,551 students with 496 teachers in these societies, of whom 961 were minors admitted as associates. Business in the purchase and distribution of stationery or books was transacted to the extent of Rs. 20,682 which effected a saving of Rs. 1,876. The net profit for the year was Rs. 1,715. Other societies

There were 15 agricultural demonstration societies at the end of the year. Only six of these did any active work.

There were 63 weavers' societies and 76 credit societies of which more than 60 per cent were weavers'. Their working capital increased from Rs. 1·32 lakhs to Rs. 1·52 lakhs with corresponding increases in divisible profits.

108. A comparative statement of the progress of the working of the 31 district central banks (excluding the Madras Central Urban Bank) is given below :— Working of societies

	1926-27.	1927-28.
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	478	543
Deposits	423	481
Paid-up share capital	44·33	48·70
Reserve fund	12·59	15·52

It is clear from these figures, that the work of these banks is steadily expanding. Deposits, accepted by the central banks, from the local boards and municipalities continued to increase in spite of the fact that the rate of interest thereon was not allowed to exceed 4 per cent. At the end of the year, deposits from local boards and other such sources amounted to Rs. 161·07 lakhs as compared with Rs. 138·62 lakhs at the end of the previous year. The deposits, held by the district banks from non-members and members, amounted to Rs. 331·91 lakhs as against Rs. 295·91 lakhs in the previous year. These deposits represent 61 per cent of the total working capital as compared with 62 per cent in the previous year. Borrowings from the provincial bank were Rs. 84·62 lakhs, which

amounted to 15 per cent of their working capital as compared with 16 in the previous year.

As usual, the Imperial Bank of India rendered great assistance to the movement particularly in regard to the provision of fluid resources by allowing overdrafts to the central banks as well as to the Madras Central Urban Bank at a flat rate of 6½ per cent. An additional overdraft of Rs. 40,000 was sanctioned to the Sri Konaseema Co-operative Central Bank, Ltd., while the overdraft granted to the Anantapur district bank was reduced to Rs. 50,000. Thus the overdrafts allowed amounted to Rs. 36·66 lakhs as compared with Rs. 36·76 lakhs at the end of the previous year.

The increase in book profits as well as divisible profits, compared with the previous year, was appreciable in nine district banks. With the exception of Chittoor and South Kanara central banks, the rest will be in a position to declare dividends at the maximum rate of 9 per cent.

The principal arrears under long and short-term loans were nil in Aska Central Bank and less than 10 per cent in Ramachandrapuram, Sri Konaseema and Ellore Central Banks, while they were high in Anantapur, South Arcot, Hospet, Chittoor, Cuddapah, Malabar and Salem under long-term loans. With regard to the collection of interest, all the district banks have done well with the exception of Chittoor, Cuddapah, Malabar and Nellore.

Madras Central Urban Bank

The following comparative statement shows the progress of the working of the Madras Central Urban Bank:—

	1926-27.	1927-28.
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	129	138
Deposits	117	125
Paid-up share capital	5·958	5·963
Reserve fund	7	9

There was considerable expansion in the transactions of the Central Urban Bank under all heads of deposits and borrowings. Loans to the extent of Rs. 65·91 lakhs were issued during the year as compared with Rs. 58·37 lakhs in the previous year. The total of loans outstanding amounted to Rs. 85·51 lakhs as compared with Rs. 74·73 lakhs

in the previous year. The direct indebtedness of primary societies to the Madras Central Urban Bank was further reduced from Rs. 5,000 at the beginning of the year to Rs. 1,500 at the end. The net divisible profit of the Madras Central Urban Bank for the year was Rs. 2·615 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·058 lakhs in the previous year. The Central Urban Bank had investments amounting to over Rs. 47 lakhs outside the movement in Madras. The amount of local fund and municipal deposits in the Madras Central Urban Bank at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 27·82 lakhs. An overdraft of Rs. 17·55 lakhs was sanctioned by the Imperial Bank to the Central Urban Bank during the year. The bank maintained fluid resources in accordance with the standard fixed.

Agricultural societies

109. The number of agricultural credit societies increased from 11,000 in 1926–27 to 11,966 in the year under review. The financial position of the societies as a whole is shown below :—

Agricultural credit societies

	1926-27. LAKHS. RS.	1927-28. LAKHS. RS.
Working capital	489·52	573·80
Paid-up share capital	58·37	67·56
Deposits	19·82	24·82
Loans from central banks ...	375·80	438·64
Loans from Government ...	8·12	9·65
Reserve fund	27·41	33·13

There was considerable expansion during the year, due to the formation of new societies and the consolidation and development of societies registered before the beginning of the year. There was a substantial increase in share capital in almost all districts. The increase was particularly noticeable in North Arcot, Chingleput and East Gōdāvari.

The total divisible profits of all societies during the year amounted to Rs. 9·70 lakhs as compared with Rs. 9·26 lakhs in the previous year. The total loss rose from Rs. 9·51 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 10·98 lakhs in the year under review. The book profits of all agricultural credit societies for the year amounted to Rs. 39·92 lakhs as compared with Rs. 34·04 lakhs in the previous year.

The total value of all loans for productive and non-productive purposes was Rs. 255·98 lakhs as compared with Rs. 236·57 lakhs in the previous year. The percentage of the total loans issued during the year to the working capital was 44 per cent. The amount of loans granted for unproductive purposes increased to Rs. 4·43 lakhs. The amount of loans given by the agricultural credit societies during the year for short-term purposes was Rs. 107·31 lakhs and for long term was Rs. 146·25 lakhs. The amount borrowed from central banks was Rs. 76·20 lakhs and Rs. 129·97 lakhs respectively under short term and long term. The amount of loans outstanding against members was Rs. 129·43 lakhs under short term and Rs. 378·99 lakhs under long term, while the amounts due to central banks were Rs. 82·85 lakhs and Rs. 355·47 lakhs respectively. The percentage of arrears to the principal fell from 45·66 to 42·8. The percentage of arrear interest rose from 53·9 to 57·1.

Societies for purchase and sale

The number of agricultural societies for purchase or for purchase and sale rose from 116 to 127 during the year. The total working capital of all the societies was Rs. 6·19 lakhs as compared with Rs. 6·65 lakhs in the previous year, and their net profit and loss were Rs. 16,423 and Rs. 32,768 respectively.

Societies for production and sale

Ten societies for production and sale were registered during the year bringing the total number of societies to 26 at the end of the year. Of these, 20 were milk supply societies. A net profit of Rs. 4,092 was earned as compared with Rs. 3,001 in the previous year.

Cattle insurance societies

There were four cattle insurance societies as in the previous year.

Other agricultural societies

The total number of agricultural societies for purposes other than those specified above rose from 300 to 348. Most of these were societies for tenants and depressed classes.

Non-agricultural societies

110. The number of non-agricultural societies rose during the year from 1,115 to 1,135. There was substantial progress in all transactions as shown by the figures in the following table.

Credit societies

	1926-27.	1927-28.
Number of members ...	184,730	197,945
	LAKHS. RS.	LAKHS. RS.
Paid-up share capital ...	52·47	58·41
Deposits by individuals ...	103·52	119·49
Working capital	194·88	217·60
Net divisible profit ...	7·03	8·06

The proportion of borrowings from central banks to the entire working capital was 11·90 in the year under review as compared with 12·31 in the previous year. Non-agricultural societies were able to attract considerable deposits, the difference between the deposits at the end of the year under review and at the end of the previous year being Rs. 15·97 lakhs.

Thrift societies

There were 116 societies on the thrift basis, one in East Gōdāvari, 110 in South Kanara, 3 in Kurnool and 2 in Madras. Their accumulated share capital was Rs. 38,051 as compared with Rs. 24,344 in the previous year.

Special societies for employees

At the beginning of the year, there were 272 special societies for employees. The number rose to 312 at the end of the year. Two hundred and seven of these societies were for Government servants, 97 for municipal employees and 8 for factory employees.

Societies for purchase, production and sale co-operative stores and other trading societies

The number of credit societies for purchase and for purchase and sale or for production and sale increased during the year from 206 to 241. Sale of goods to members increased from Rs. 21·98 lakhs to Rs. 23·37 lakhs. The value of stock bought was Rs. 22·08 lakhs as against Rs. 21·69 lakhs in the previous year. The divisible profit increased from Rs. 43,085 to Rs. 55,105.

Other non-agricultural societies

In addition, there were 217 societies as compared with 180 in the previous year. Most of these were building societies.

Societies for backward classes

111. There were 2,087 societies for depressed and backward classes at the beginning of the year. Five hundred and seventy-five societies were added, during the year, making a total of 2,662 societies at the end of the year. Of these, 1,572 were in charge of the Labour department and 1,090 societies in charge of the Co-operative department.

Besides those societies, in charge of the Labour department, there were 364 societies at the end of the year in charge of the Kallar Special Officers, Madura and Tanjore.

The share capital of the 1,090 societies in charge of the Co-operative department amounted to Rs. 2·43 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1·88 lakhs in the previous year. Members' deposits amounted to Rs. 25,151 as compared with Rs. 11,177 in the previous year. The reserve fund rose from Rs. 37,034 in the previous year to nearly Rs. 83,000 in the year under review.

Some of these societies obtained lands on lease or otherwise for cultivation by members. At the end of the year, 38,471 acres of land were held on lease by these societies as compared with 30,115 acres in the preceding year.

Reserve fund

112. The total reserve fund of all societies will amount to Rs. 82·18 lakhs as compared with Rs. 68·54 lakhs in the previous year, after the contributions to the reserve fund have been made in accordance with the audit orders on the accounts for the year. The sum is distributed as follows:—

	1926-27.	1927-28.
	RS.	Rs.
Madras Central Urban Bank ...	7,00,000	9,00,000
District central banks ...	12,58,851	15,52,338
Agricultural primary societies ...	33,31,184	39,26,249
Non-agricultural primary societies.	15,63,614	18,39,852
Total ...	68,53,649	82,18,439

The Madras Central Urban Bank has invested the whole of its reserve in Government promissory notes. All the district banks are now investing their entire reserve fund in the Madras Central Urban Bank and the primary societies in the district banks.

Supervision

113. Supervising and audit unions increased from 366 to 392 during the year (excluding 3 propagandist unions and nineteen federations). Of the 14,064 primary societies in the Presidency, 11,544 societies were affiliated to unions as against, 10,709 in the previous year. Five hundred and eighty societies had not started work at the end of the year. Most of the unaffiliated societies were in

charge of the Labour department. The total receipts of all district federations and supervising audit unions was Rs. 7·97 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 7·08 lakhs as compared with Rs. 4·47 lakhs and Rs. 3·14 lakhs respectively in the previous year. The total demand for the year on account of supervision fund was Rs. 3·46 lakhs. Of the total receipts under supervision fund, contributions paid by all the central banks amounted to Rs. 1·44 lakhs.

Litigation

114. There was again an increase in the number of suits instituted in civil courts. One thousand four hundred and thirty-five suits were filed during the year as compared with 1,321 in the previous year. 20,444 arbitration references were preferred under the rules framed under the Act, as compared with 21,524 in the previous year. Fifty-six criminal prosecutions were initiated during the year as compared with 23 in the previous year.

Liquidation

115. The registration of 107 societies was cancelled during the year of which 70 were agricultural credit societies.

Miscellaneous

116. Audit of all societies, with the exception of four, was completed before the end of the co-operative year and audit certificates were issued to all societies except for three. During the year under review, rule XIV of the rules framed under the Act was amended, legalizing the transfer of arbitration references to assistant registrars and honorary assistant registrars by deputy registrars. Efforts were made during the year to improve the efficiency of the staff by recruiting graduates and by giving periodical instruction in office routine to the clerical staff. The Sixteenth Provincial Co-operative Conference was held in April at Rajahmundry. The attitude of the public towards the co-operative movement continued to be cordial and the number of honorary workers is steadily increasing.

LOCAL BOARDS ADMINISTRATION (1927–28)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—District and Local Boards]

General

District boards

117. The total number of district boards in the Presidency was 25 compared with 24 in the previous year (the Kistna district board having been divided into the Kistna and the West Gōdāvari district boards during the year). The Nilgiri district board was the only one of which the President was not a non-official. The privilege of electing their presidents was enjoyed by 21 district boards against 19 in the previous year. The total sanctioned strength of the local boards was 1,014. The actual strength at the close of the year including ex-officio members was 888 of whom 256 were nominated by the Government and 505 elected by the taluk boards. The district boards held in all 270 meetings during the year, three of which were adjourned for want of a quorum and four for want of time or other reasons.

Taluk boards

The total number of taluk boards in the Presidency continued to be 129. All the taluk boards were presided over by non-officials and, in 121 boards, the office of president was filled by election. The sanctioned strength of the taluk boards rose from 2,499 to 2,539. The actual strength at the close of the year was 2,468 of whom 753 were nominated and 1,715 elected. Elections were held, during the year, to fill 661 seats on the taluk boards. At those which were contested (491), over 56 per cent of the electors voted. The taluk boards held 1,343 meetings during the year, 13 of which were adjourned for want of a quorum and 23 for want of time or other reasons.

Union boards

There were 469 union boards. The number of members on these boards, at the close of the year, was 5,294 of whom 1,220 members were nominated.

Taxes

Under the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, the levy of land cess at the rate of one anna in the rupee of the annual rent value is obligatory. An additional cess up to a maximum of three pies in the rupee was levied during the year by 20

district boards and 106 taluk boards. The profession tax was levied by 58 taluk boards and the companies tax by 10 taluk boards. These two taxes were, as before, collected with difficulty. The education cess for the expansion of elementary education was levied during the year by 101 taluk boards. The Nilgiri district board levied the cess in the whole of the area under its jurisdiction and the Malabar district board in the area under the jurisdiction of the old Wynaad taluk board. Tolls on carriages, carts and animals were collected in all districts. House tax was levied in all unions.

Finance—Receipts

118. The aggregate balance at the beginning of the year was Rs. 88·1 lakhs. The total receipts (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 459·5 lakhs against Rs. 413·4 lakhs in the previous year. The grants received from provincial funds rose from Rs. 99·9 lakhs to Rs. 129·17 lakhs. Of the latter sum, Rs. 3·65 lakhs was in aid of the general resources of the boards, Rs. 22·21 lakhs for trunk roads, Rs. 62·46 lakhs for education and Rs. 2·6 lakhs for the maintenance of hospitals and dispensaries. Special Government grants amounting to Rs. 17·1 lakhs for the improvement of village communications and of the water-supply in rural areas were sanctioned during the year. The total sum expended from this grant before the close of the year was Rs. 7·88 lakhs.

Expenditure

119. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) was Rs. 456·1 lakhs as compared with Rs. 412·4 lakhs in the previous year. The aggregate closing balance was Rs. 91·5 lakhs.

Communications

The total outlay on communications amounted to Rs. 165·49 lakhs (compared with Rs. 143·7 lakhs in 1926–27), of which Rs. 54·11 lakhs was met from provincial grants. Seven hundred and twenty-two miles of new roads were constructed during the year. The total length of roads maintained by the boards at the close of the year was 28,776 miles, of which 3,057 miles were trunk roads.

Education

The number of secondary and elementary schools maintained by all the boards during the year was 181 and 15,130 respectively. A Sanskrit college was maintained by a district board. The number

of pupils in the elementary schools was 821,453. There were 13,155 pupils on the rolls of the elementary department of the board secondary schools and 25,587 pupils in the secondary department. The total expenditure incurred on education during the year was Rs. 109·13 lakhs, of which the Government contributed Rs. 62·46 lakhs, while the income from fees and other receipts amounted to Rs. 19·96 lakhs. The net amount contributed by local boards was Rs. 26·71 lakhs.

Medical relief

The local boards maintained 103 hospitals and 606 dispensaries as compared with 107 hospitals and 595 dispensaries in 1926–27. The total number of in-patients who received treatment at the medical institutions decreased from 27,417 to 22,982, while that of the out-patients rose from 6,515,475 to 7,162,497. The aggregate cost of maintaining these institutions amounted to Rs. 21·5 lakhs.

Vaccination

120. The 521 vaccinators, employed by the local boards, performed 1,244,239 successful vaccinations during the year, which represents a ratio of approximately 33 per mille of the population of the Presidency. The total expenditure on preventive medicine, including water-supply and sanitation, was Rs. 14·41 lakhs compared with Rs. 13 lakhs in the previous year.

Railways

121. Railways owned by the district boards were at work in six districts in the Presidency, viz., Tanjore, Coimbatore, Guntūr, Salem, Kistna and Tinnevelly. The total capital outlay up to the end of the year was Rs. 155·98 lakhs.

Coimbatore

The gross earnings of the Podanur-Pollachi Railway (25 miles) amounted to Rs. 5·35 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 3·33 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 2·02 lakhs or 11·7 per cent on the capital outlay compared with 12 per cent last year.

Tanjore

The net earnings of the Tanjore District Board Railway (131 miles) rose from Rs. 5·6 lakhs to Rs. 6·2 lakhs and worked out to 8·9 per cent of the capital outlay compared with 7·1 per cent in the previous year.

Salem

The net earnings of the Salem-Suramangalam Railway (3·9 miles) decreased from Rs. ·6 lakh to

Rs. ·5 lakh and represented 9·1 per cent of the capital outlay compared with 10·9 per cent in 1926–27.

The gross earnings of the Tinnevelly-Tiruchendur Railway (38 miles) were Rs. 5 lakhs and the working expenses Rs. 2·7 lakhs. The net earnings were thus Rs. 2·3 lakhs, representing a return of 8·9 per cent on the capital outlay against 9·5 per cent in the preceding year. Tinnevelly

The net earnings of the Tenali-Repalli Railway (21 miles) were Rs. 1·4 lakhs and worked out to about 8·9 per cent of the total capital outlay compared with 8·6 per cent in the previous year. Guntūr

The net earnings of the Bezwada-Masulipatam Railway (51·8 miles) decreased from Rs. 4·7 lakhs to Rs. 3·5 lakhs or from 20·2 to 15·3 per cent on the capital outlay. Kistna

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—MUFASSAL
(1927–28)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

122. There were eighty municipal councils at work as in the previous year. The total sanctioned number of seats on these councils was 1,684 * of which 1,632 * were occupied at the close of the year including 399 * members appointed by Government. There were no European members on 45 councils. The municipal councils held 2,117* meetings compared with 2,205 in the previous year. One hundred and ninety-one meetings were adjourned for want of a quorum and 59 * for other reasons. The average attendance of members at meetings decreased from 65·2 per cent to 62·7 * per cent of the sanctioned strength. Of the 466 * elections, held during the year, 370 * were contested and over 67 * per cent of the voters exercised their franchise compared with 69 per cent in the previous year. General

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Note.—Figures marked with an asterisk relate only to 77 municipalities, as the figures relating to the remaining 3 municipalities were not received before going to press.

Finance—Receipts

123. The aggregate opening balance was Rs. 46·5 lakhs as compared with Rs. 36·2 lakhs last year. Receipts (both ordinary and capital) amounted to Rs. 207·4 lakhs as compared with Rs. 200 lakhs in 1926–27. Of the receipts, Rs. 41 lakhs was derived from taxes. The average incidence of taxation per head of population was Rs. 2–10–5 as against Rs. 2–6–4 for the previous year. Grants from provincial funds for the maintenance of services amounted to Rs. 14·6 lakhs against Rs. 10·9 lakhs in 1926–27. Of this, Rs. 9·8 lakhs were paid for education, Rs. 1·4 lakhs for roads and Rs. ·3 lakh for medical relief. Further grants from provincial funds, amounting to Rs. 3·2 lakhs, were paid during the year towards the cost of capital works. Of this amount, Rs. 2·3 lakhs were grants for works connected with water-supply. Loans amounting to Rs. 20·95 lakhs were advanced by the Government during the year as compared with Rs. 23·4 lakhs in the previous year. The municipal councils of Coimbatore and Tuticorin borrowed Rs. 4 and Rs. 2·4 lakhs respectively, for works connected with water-supply schemes and the Kumbakōnam municipal council took a loan of Rs. 2 lakhs for drainage works. The Madura municipal council also borrowed a sum of Rs. 1·5 lakhs for the same purpose. The Kurnool and the Bezwada municipal councils took loans of Rs. 2·65 lakhs and Rs. 1·5 lakhs respectively for electric lighting schemes. Several other municipal councils borrowed smaller sums for various purposes.

Expenditure

Communications

124. The total expenditure (both ordinary and capital) was Rs. 213·4 lakhs compared with Rs. 189·3 lakhs in 1926–27. The expenditure on communications amounted to Rs. 34·9 lakhs, of which Rs. 13·2 lakhs was spent on the maintenance of roads and Rs. 8·8 lakhs on lighting.

Water-supply and drainage

During the year, the execution of water-supply scheme in one municipality was completed and the execution of two new water-supply schemes was in progress. Schemes for the improvement and extension of water-works in several municipalities were in progress. Certain portions of the Madura drainage scheme were opened during the

year. The Vellore drainage scheme was also practically completed. Proceedings for the acquisition of land for the purpose of opening conservancy lanes as a preliminary to the installation of a drainage system were continued in the Kumbakōnam municipality. The total expenditure in connexion with water-supply and drainage schemes, including expenditure on capital works, amounted to Rs. 40·9 lakhs as compared with Rs. 40·2 lakhs in the previous year. Of this expenditure, a sum of Rs. 5·2 lakhs was met out of grants from provincial funds and Rs. 10·6 lakhs from loans advanced by the Government.

Medical relief.

The municipal councils maintained during the year 144* medical institutions which afforded relief to 31,767 * in-patients and 2,936,879 * out-patients. The total expenditure incurred by the councils on medical relief amounted to Rs. 9·5 lakhs and on sanitation, to Rs. 22·3 lakhs.

Education

There were 1,407* elementary schools under the management of municipal councils as compared with 1,404 in the previous year. There were 50 * municipal secondary schools during the year as compared with 51 in 1926-27. One municipal council continued to maintain a college. The total expenditure on elementary education was Rs. 17·3 lakhs, of which Rs. 8·2 lakhs was met from Government grants and Rs. 7·2 lakhs from general municipal funds. The total expenditure incurred on secondary education was Rs. 11 lakhs, of which Rs. 1·9 lakhs was covered by subsidies from provincial funds.

Closing balance and debt

The aggregate closing balance of the year, including both ordinary and capital, was Rs. 40·51 lakhs as compared with Rs. 46·5 lakhs at the close of the previous year. The balance of provincial loans, outstanding against municipal councils at the end of the year, rose from Rs. 71·95 lakhs to Rs. 90·78 lakhs.

Note.—Figures marked with an asterisk relate only to 77 municipalities, as the figures relating to the remaining 3 municipalities were not received before going to press.

MUNICIPAL ADMINISTRATION—CITY OF MADRAS (1927–28)

[*Administration Report of the Corporation of Madras for 1927–28*; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Municipalities*]

Finance

125. According to the form of accounts sanctioned in April 1926, the receipts for the year, including the opening balance, amounted to Rs. 1,35,86,244 as against Rs. 1,38,40,058 in the previous year. Revenue from all sources amounted to Rs. 51·63 lakhs as against Rs. 52·83 lakhs in the year 1926–27. The fall in the income of the year is attributed mainly to the realization in the previous year of an additional sum of nearly Rs. 3 lakhs by the sale of Government securities. The incidence of taxation per head of population under all taxes, including tolls, was Rs. 7-2-9 as against Rs. 7-2-5 in the previous year. During the year, the Corporation received a loan of Rs. 8 lakhs from the Government for water-supply and drainage schemes. The debts at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 1,37,57,208 and the sinking fund relating to the various loans, exclusive of Government loans repayable in instalments, was Rs. 33·34 lakhs, of which Rs. 33·24 lakhs was in Government securities and Madras municipal debentures, and Rs. 10,426 in cash. Payments amounting to Rs. 8·28 lakhs were also made during the year towards repayments of Government loans of Rs. 76½ lakhs. The expenditure under all heads amounted to Rs. 83·50 lakhs as against Rs. 86·81 lakhs in the previous year. The amount spent under the head of management was Rs 5·76 lakhs as against Rs. 5·81 lakhs in the previous year.

Works

Communications

126. The total expenditure on general improvements during the year in the communications of the City of Madras was Rs. 16,240 and Rs. 5·11 lakhs were spent on repairs as against Rs. 61,276 and Rs. 4·97 lakhs respectively in the previous year. One mile, 133 yards and 2 feet of roads were metalled for the first time and 48 miles, 7 furlongs and 27 yards of roads were re-formed. The cost of re-forming the roads was Rs. 4,029 per mile as against Rs. 4,674 in the previous year. Sixteen miles, 177 yards and 2 feet of roads were tarred

for the first time and 9 miles, 2 furlongs and 128 yards were re-tarred. The total length of tarred roads in the City at the end of the year was 57 miles and 3½ furlongs.

Buildings

A sum of Rs. 1,09,027 was spent on new buildings and Rs. 33,381 on repairs to buildings during the year under review as compared with Rs. 2·73 lakhs and Rs. 63,966 respectively in the previous year. The works carried out during the year were the construction of flush-out latrines, bathing fountains and houses for the poor.

Nearly half a lakh was spent on the Mambalam Town Planning scheme during the year. About 400 grounds of land were sold in public auction. Steps were taken to acquire lands for the construction of connecting roads.

The Choolai Development scheme will be taken up soon after the completion of the Mambalam scheme.

Drainage

A sum of Rs. 2·77 lakhs was expended on capital works in connexion with the drainage during the year and Rs. 2·49 lakhs on maintenance. The laying of sewers was carried out in accordance with a predetermined programme which had the approval of the Corporation. The total length of sewers laid during the year was 40,972 feet. Three hundred and fourteen house-connexions to the sewers were made during the year as against 160 in the previous year.

Water-supply

Expenditure on new works in connexion with water-supply amounted to Rs. 96,055 as compared with Rs. 70,584 in the previous year. Rs. 2·87 lakhs were spent on maintenance work during the year. 4,871·30 million gallons of water were supplied during the year, which is equivalent to nearly 25·33 gallons per head per day. Nine hundred and forty-two new house service connexions were laid by licensed plumbers, and 2,076 were repaired, renewed or extended during the year. At the end of the year, there were 35,776 house-connexions in Madras City. Thirty-six fountains and eight bathing fountains were constructed and 21 public fountains and one cattle trough removed during the year. Concrete margins were provided for 228 fountains in the City,

in order to improve the sanitary condition round them. Owing to the poor monsoon, the level of the water at the Red Hills lake was very low even in January 1927. Measures were taken to conserve the available storage.

Education

127. The total number of schools under the control of the Corporation rose from 95 to 104 of which 44 are located in Corporation buildings and the rest in rented buildings. Steps are being taken to acquire sites for the construction of buildings to locate those schools now working in rented buildings. Night schools were held in 45 Corporation schools. On the 31st March 1928, the number of pupils on the rolls of the Corporation schools was 21,542 (13,710 boys and 7,832 girls) as compared with 18,183 (11,777 boys and 6,406 girls) in the previous year. Two additional medical inspectors and one medical inspectress were appointed. A Corporation reading room was opened during the year. Food and clothing were supplied to deserving poor pupils.

The expenditure on education during the year amounted to Rs. 5·22 lakhs as against 3·97 lakhs in the previous year. A sum of Rs. 2·54 lakhs was paid from the Corporation funds as contribution towards the Education Fund. The education tax was raised from $\frac{3}{4}$ per cent during the previous year to $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent during the year under review, and realized Rs. 2·36 lakhs. A grant of Rs. 24,487 was received from Government for the maintenance of 12 Muslim boys' schools and two Muslim girls' schools transferred to the management of the Corportion. The Government paid a contribution of Rs. 1,42,044-12-0 as an equivalent to the amount of education cess collected during the year.

Public health

128. The amount spent on medical relief amounted to Rs. 1·52 lakhs and that on preventive medicine and public amenities to Rs. 12·50 lakhs and Rs. 71,462, respectively. The expenditure on sanitation and conservancy during the year was Rs. 9·30 lakhs. Contributions, amounting to Rs. 11,153, were paid to hospitals and dispensaries. The expenditure on hospitals amounted to Rs. 2·55 lakhs as against Rs. 2·52 lakhs in the previous

year. The expenditure on vaccination and registration of births and deaths was Rs. 43,421 as against 41,735 last year. The total number of persons vaccinated was 33,134 as compared with 26,285 in the previous year. There were 24,760 births registered during the year. The cost of maintaining the fire engines was Rs. 25,994 as compared with Rs. 32,191 in the preceding year.

The cleaning of the anti-malarial drains was started in 1927. A large number of tanks and ponds were periodically and systematically cleaned and oiled. Cesspools, tanks, wells and silt traps were petrolized during the year. Larvicidal fishes were introduced into 3,922 wells.

Electric lighting

129. Expenditure under this head amounted to Rs. 3·02 lakhs for maintenance and Rs. 37,335 for capital works. At the end of the year, there were 9,020 electric lights in use in the City as compared with 9,374 in the previous year. The decrease is due to the fact that single lamps of higher candle power were substituted for bunches of lamps of smaller candle power. Ornamental lights were installed in certain parks and roads.

MILITARY—AUXILIARY AND TERRITORIAL FORCES (1927-28)

Auxiliary Force

130. The total strength of the thirteen Auxiliary Force units in the Madras Military district on 31st March 1928 was 6,929. Satisfactory progress was made by all units. Keen interest was displayed by all ranks in the various duties entrusted to them.

Indian Territorial Force

The total strength of the five Indian Territorial Force units on the 31st March 1928 was 2,502. The formation of an additional Indian Territorial Force unit was sanctioned in August 1927. This unit is now under formation. The annual training camps were well attended.

MARINE (1927–28)

General

[*Reports of the Madras Port Trust, the Madras Port Fund, the Tuticorin Port Fund, and the Madras Port Department for the year 1927–28*]

Madras Port Trust

131. There was a large increase in the revenue of the port, in the tonnage of the cargo landed at and shipped from the port and in the number and tonnage of vessels that arrived at the Madras harbour. It is evident that the trade outlook is improving from the temporary set back experienced last year owing to industrial troubles and the coal strike in England. The port passed through a prosperous year on account of bumper crops due to timely rains.

Finance

The actual receipts, including the contribution of Rs. 40,000 made by the Madras Port Fund, amounted to Rs. 45,04,712. This figure is the largest in the history of the port, and records an increase of Rs. 7,65,349 over 1926–27. There was an increase of Rs. 16,62,473 in expenditure during the year under review over that of the previous year. This was mainly due to the fact that Rs. 16·50 lakhs were transferred to capital. The gross expenditure out of revenue, inclusive of interest on capital, amortization of debt and contributions to capital, was Rs. 49,69,147 as compared with Rs. 33,06,674 in the previous year. This was equivalent to 110·3 per cent of the gross receipts as compared with 89·2 per cent in 1926–27. The result on the working for the year was a deficit of Rs. 4·64 lakhs as compared with a surplus of Rs. 4·3 lakhs in the previous year. The deficit in the year under review was due to a contribution of Rs. 16·50 lakhs to capital. The total amount of Government securities that stood to the credit of the sinking fund, at the end of the year under review, was Rs. 4·77 lakhs. The outstanding amount of loan due to the Secretary of State for India in Council was Rs. 1,35,09,354 at the close of the year under review.

Traffic

The number of vessels that entered the harbour increased from 795 in the previous year to 936 in the year under review and the total net registered tonnage from 2,609,935 to 3,013,109. The average tonnage of each vessel decreased from 3,573 to 3,564

net registered tons. Passengers to the number of 98,728 arrived at and 133,628 left the port, making a total of 232,356 as compared with 225,391 in the previous year.

Trade

The total tonnage of imports and exports during the year amounted to 1,444,342 tons or an increase of 27·4 per cent over the previous year. The year under review was a record one for this port as regards the total tonnage of both imports and exports landed at and shipped from it.

Imports

The tonnage of imports amounted to 1,047,654, an increase of 24·1 per cent over the previous year. There was an appreciable increase in the imports of coal, rice and other foodgrains, hardware, manures, kerosene oil, liquid fuel, bensine, railway plant and rolling stock, motor vehicles and Government stores.

Exports

The export of groundnut from this port, during the year under review, was on a larger scale than any other single produce and formed 67·2 per cent of the total exports of the port. The tonnage of groundnuts exported amounted to 266,834, or an increase of 63·2 per cent over the previous year. The export of bone manure during the year was nearly twice as much as the figure for the previous year.

Works

Several original and repair works were in progress during the year. Substantial progress was made in the construction of the new deep water quay, the construction of a new breakwater from the south-east corner of the harbour, the provision of additional warehouse accommodation on the south accretion, providing of improvements to springhaven shed and its environs, in repairs to cyclone damages and in dredging. A new store shed on the south accretion was completed during the year. In order to relieve the insanitary condition of the Cooum, a scheme was sanctioned by Government to install two centrifugal pumping sets inside the timber pond limits of the Port Trust for pumping sea water into it.

Madras Port Fund

132. The ordinary receipts and charges of the port fund were Rs. 2,76,803 and Rs. 1,91,942 as against Rs. 2,29,284 and Rs. 2,29,131 respectively in the previous year. The increase in the receipts

in the year under review was mainly due to the increase in receipts under port dues and mooring fees. The decrease in expenditure during the year under review was mainly under "Supplies and services."

Tuticorin Port Trust

Finance

133. The total receipts during the year were Rs. 4,32,386 as against Rs. 3,27,187 in the preceding year. The main items which contributed to the increase were imports, ground-rent, overtime fees, shed rent and interest on investments. The working expenses for the year amounted to Rs. 4,10,809 as against Rs. 2,73,747 in the previous year. The amount of loan outstanding on the 1st April 1928 was Rs. 22,22,786.

Traffic

The number of vessels that entered the port was 955 with a net registered tonnage of 1,054,625, as compared with 869 vessels of 1,016,960 tons in the previous year. The increase was due to the number of foreign trade vessels which landed railway materials for the South Indian Railway, and iron pipes for the Tuticorin water scheme. The total value of the sea-borne trade of the port during the year amounted to Rs. 11,31,06,549 as compared with Rs. 10,08,57,645 in the previous year.

Imports and exports

The total tonnage imported during the year was 356,398 tons and the dues collected Rs. 2,66,464. There was an increase under most of the items as compared with the previous year, especially under grains, railway materials for the South Indian Railway and water pipes for the Tuticorin water-supply scheme. The principal exports were raw cotton, tea, fibre, cattle, sheep, goats, onions, and dry fish. The total tonnage exported during the year was 137,468 and the dues collected Rs. 1,36,004, these being a slight increase over the corresponding figures for 1926–27. The cotton crop during the year was poor and the exports were considerably reduced in consequence.

Works

The harbour dipper dredger "St. George" completed the 11th cut in the turning basin. An effective area of about 18 acres was reclaimed. The dredging by "St. George" trial shaft and other capital works were suspended on the 18th November 1927 under the orders of Government

The question of continuance of the harbour project was referred to an independent committee. The committee have suggested an alternative scheme. The papers were forwarded to the Port Trust for remarks on the 12th March 1928. The dredger "Manar" was engaged in dredging the approach channel and completed the work in September 1927.

Tuticorin Port Fund

134. A sum of Rs. 1,32,130 was collected in port dues during the year as against Rs. 1,18,867 in the previous year. The total receipts and charges of the port fund amounted to Rs. 1,47,013 and Rs. 1,38,162, respectively, leaving a closing balance of Rs. 32,362 as compared with Rs. 23,510 in the previous year.

Port Department Vizagapatam

135. The dredgers "Vizagapatam," "Waltair" and "Manar" were occupied in dredging work.

Minor ports

The following are the seven chief minor ports administered by the Port department:—

Cochin, Calicut, Cocanada, Mangalore, Negapatam, Cuddalore and Cannanore.

The total value of sea-borne trade of the minor ports in the Presidency, except Tuticorin, was Rs. 44·31 crores as against Rs. 38·38 crores in the previous year.

Seventeen thousand and fifty-eight vessels, with an aggregate tonnage of 7,259,880, entered the several outports, except Tuticorin, during the year, as against 15,302 vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 6,531,510 in the previous year. The total collection of port dues amounted to Rs. 6·37 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·77 lakhs in the previous year.

Various works were executed during the year by several officers of the Public Works and the Harbour Engineer-in-Chief's departments.

The total number of wrecks and casualties reported from outports, except Tuticorin, was 12 as compared with 11 in the previous year. There was a boat accident at the port of Baruva which resulted in the loss of three lives.

MORTALITY FROM WILD ANIMALS AND SNAKES (1927)

[*Annual statement of the mortality caused by wild animals and snakes and the measures adopted for the destruction of wild animals during the calendar year 1927*]

Mortality

Wild animals

136. The number of persons killed by wild animals during the year was 487 as compared with 422 in the previous year. The largest number of deaths occurred as usual in the Vizagapatam and Ganjām districts and were caused by tigers.

Snakes

The number of persons who died from snake-bite was 1,058 as compared with 1,066 in the previous year. There were over 100 deaths from snake-bite in each of the districts of Chittoor, Tanjore, Trichinopoly and Malabar.

Destruction and rewards

137. Four hundred and sixty-four animals were destroyed during the year, of which 91 were tigers and 373 leopards, panthers and cheetas. Four hundred and forty-six animals were destroyed in the previous year. Rewards amounting to Rs. 9,966 were paid for the destruction of these animals, as compared with Rs. 9,292 in the previous year.

ARMS, EXPLOSIVES AND SULPHUR LICENCES (1927)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Arms and Explosives Acts and on the transactions in sulphur*]

Arms Act

138. The number of licences in force, during 1927, under the Indian Arms Act was 72,946 as compared with 71,966 in the previous year. These licences covered the possession of 2,066 rifled arms, 64,450 smooth-bore guns, 4,875 revolvers and pistols and 1,944 weapons of other descriptions. Most of these licences were for the possession of arms and ammunition, for going armed either for sport, protection or display (55,100 licences), or for the destruction of wild animals that do injury to crops or cattle (16,550 licences). The remaining licences were mostly for the manufacture or trade in arms and ammunition.

Explo-sives Act

139. Fourteen thousand three hundred and twenty-nine licences, under the Explosives Act, were issued during the year as compared with 9,631 in the previous year. Most of these licences were issued in the districts of Coimbatore, Madura and Trichinopoly. Of these licences, 10,094 were for the possession of gunpowder and other explosives required for blasting purposes and 2,363 for the possession and sale of explosives.

Prosecutions

Four hundred and eighty-five prosecutions were instituted for offences under the Arms and Explosives Acts in the year under review as compared with 669 in the previous year. Four hundred and thirteen resulted in conviction as compared with 589 in the previous year. The largest number of prosecutions were from the districts of Coimbatore, Salem, South Arcot, Bellary and Malabar.

Sulphur

140. Three hundred and thirty-two sulphur licences were in force in the year under review as compared with 323 in the previous year. Of this number, 301 were old licences and 31 new licences. Licences were issued, during 1927, for 981 tons of sulphur as compared with 901 tons in 1926.

CHAPTER IV

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

AGRICULTURE (1927–28)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1927–28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

General

141. The visit of His Excellency the Viceroy and the complete separation of the teaching and research sections were two events of importance in the history of the Agricultural College during the year.

Agricultural education

142. The Agricultural College, Coimbatore, continued to be maintained by the Agricultural department during the year. Forty-one students were admitted into the college in the year under review as against forty in the previous year. Twenty-three students appeared for Part I of the B.Sc. examination, of whom nineteen passed; in Part II, twenty students appeared and eighteen passed; in addition, four old students appeared for Part I and two for Part II, and all passed. The middle school at Anakāpalle was closed during the year for want of demand for this class of education. The school at Taliparamba worked satisfactorily. The school sanctioned for Kālahasti in Chittoor district is being built. A grant has been sanctioned to the Madura district board for opening a school in connexion with the Kallar reclamation scheme. The question of opening a school in Tanjore district is under consideration.

Classes for juvenile and adult labourers continued to be held during the year at the Central Farm, Coimbatore, and the agricultural stations at Anakāpalle and Pālūr.

Research

143. The experts at Coimbatore were chiefly occupied in studying crop pests and diseases and in trying to improve existing crops by hybridization and by evolving pure strains. Their discoveries were tested in the experimental stations, of which there are 31. Some of these stations are designed for studying general farming problems, while others specialize in the study of some particular crop. Research work, as usual, was concentrated on paddy and cotton, but other crops like sugarcane, dry grains and coconuts also received attention.

Paddy

The study of paddy was carried on in the four breeding stations on the same lines as in previous years. About 170 tons of seed of improved strains were distributed by the department during the year under review as against 131 tons in the previous year. It is reported that about 2 lakhs of acres are under cultivation with improved strains of paddy. There has been an increased demand for seeds of improved strains. At the Coimbatore station, investigations were carried out on the effect of sowing under different conditions. The Aduturai station occupied itself with questions involved in economic planting and the effect of manures.

The academic study of paddy in the breeding stations is directed mainly towards the evolving of a strain which will resist *piricularia*, a dangerous fungus. The possibilities of hybridization are being steadily exploited. As a result of a survey of the different varieties of paddy, 531 varieties have been collected. The receipts from the sale of seeds and produce amounted to Rs. 18,414 as against Rs. 16,974 in the previous year.

Cotton

The programme of research work in cotton in the year under review was the same as in the previous year. Very good results were obtained from investigations into the question of the best time when cotton could be sown. Experiments were also conducted at the Kōvilpatti, Nandyāl and Hagari stations. Over 1,103,734 pounds of seed of improved strains were distributed in the year under review as against 805,846 pounds in the

previous year, and 217,629 acres were sown as compared with 199,078 acres in the previous year. The Cotton Transport Act continued to be in force in the Tiruppur, Tinnevelly and Northern and Western areas. The Cotton Ginning and Factories Pressing Act continued to be in force during the year.

Manure

Special attention was paid to the green manure problem. On the whole, 93 tons of green manure were distributed by the department during the year.

Demonstration

144. The results of research by the department are put into practical use by demonstrations made before the cultivators on the lands of the riots themselves. These demonstration plots are used to show the ryots the advantages of iron ploughs over other ploughs, of green manures over forest leaf and of utilizing cattle manure and improved strains of seed. In addition to demonstration plots, demonstration areas have been utilized. The old areas at Gudivāda and Chintaladevi were closed and a new one opened in Varahapatnam. In a demonstration farm conducted for the benefit of the Kallars, the advantages of planting the Java variety of sugarcane and improved strains of cambodia were shown. A number of co-operative societies conducted demonstration areas under the supervision of the department.

Operations against pests and diseases

145. The Agricultural Pests and Diseases Act continued to be applied in the interest of the cotton crop in the whole of the Madura district and certain taluks of the Salem, Trichinopoly and Coimbatore districts. The usual methods of cutting and burning of dead palms and the treating of affected ones were continued in the Circars. There is reason to believe that the disease of palm trees in the Circars is well in hand. The Pest Act continued to be applied in Malabar and South Kanara to the coconut caterpillar. The anti-smut campaign was continued with vigour in Coimbatore and Salem districts.

Livestock

146. The department continued to manage four large cattle farms at Hosūr, Coimbatore, Chintaladevi and Guntūr. A new scheme was started this year of keeping Government bulls at veterinary

hospitals for breeding purposes. Although the most important branch of works was breeding, attention was paid to the milk-yield of the cows and experiments were made on the nutritive value of foodcrops for animals.

Chemical section

147. The chemical section of the Agricultural department is most important, as most phases of research work are dependent upon its co-operation and help. A great deal of the work consists of routine analysis. Two thousand two hundred and twenty-nine samples were dealt with during the year. On the purely research side, the following were the most important items of investigation:—

(*a*) Soil survey; (*b*) conservation of soil moisture; (*c*) the effect of manuring on crop and seed; (*d*) synthetic farmyard manure; and (*e*) manurial experiments with calcium cyanamide and sodium nitrate.

Agricultural exhibitions

148. Increased attention was paid to the holding of agricultural exhibitions all over the Presidency during the year, as it is felt that such exhibitions are most useful in disseminating knowledge among the ryots. Advantage was taken of as many local festivals, meetings of bodies like co-operative unions and the jamabandi camps of Collectors, etc., where large numbers of the rural population were gathered, to hold such exhibitions. One hundred and four exhibitions were held in this way. The most important exhibition was held at Madras. During the North Arcot District Conference, a ploughing competition was held in which twelve ploughmen took part and three prizes were awarded. The building and fitting up of two exhibition motor lorries has been sanctioned. The Agricultural and Co-operative departments continued to work in harmony.

Finance

149. The expenditure of the department during the year amounted to Rs. 17·59 lakhs as against Rs. 16·58 lakhs in the previous year. The increase in the expenditure was mainly due to the development of cattle farms and breeding stations, the allotment of a special grant for the purchase of pure cotton seeds for sale to ryots and the participation of the department in the All-India Agricultural Industrial Khaddar and Arts Exhibition.

The total receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 2·89 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·66 lakhs in the previous year. The increase in receipts was caused largely by the recovery of the cost of seeds from the ryots of the Ceded districts.

Civil Veterinary Department

[*Administration Report of the Civil Veterinary Department for the year 1927–28*]

General

150. The activities of the Veterinary department appear to be steadily increasing. Eleven new dispensaries were opened during the year. The veterinary hospital at Bellary was taken over by Government in April 1927. The total number of Government veterinary institutions at the end of the year was 95. The private building in which the veterinary dispensary at Pollāchi was located was acquired by Government during the year and the dispensaries at Chicacole and Kāvali were also moved into Government buildings. Structural improvements were carried out to five hospitals. The total number of new cases admitted to veterinary institutions for treatment during the year was 125,762, while the number of cases supplied with medicine, but not brought to the institutions, rose from 4,923 to 7,387.

Itinerating staff

151. The number of touring posts remained at 88, and several of these were vacant for varying periods owing to the lack of staff. Those at Mangalore and Sivaganga were not filled throughout the year. It was decided in October 1927 that the 34 men who had been attached to the veterinary institutions as second assistants should revert to the old method of doing twenty days' touring a month, and run camp dispensaries in large villages for about ten days at a time. The total number of cases treated by this itinerating staff during the year was 60,290, of which 27,449 were non-contagious.

Diseases

152. There was a considerable increase in the mortality of cattle from contagious diseases in the year under review. The total number of deaths reported was 76,197, which is the highest figure since 1909–10. Rinderpest was the chief cause of the increased mortality, but anthrax and foot-and-mouth diseases also contributed. Ganjām and Nellore were the districts to suffer most. The total number of reports of contagious disease received and attended to by the staff was 4,534 and 3,811, respectively, as compared with 3,713, and 3,031 in the previous year.

Rinderpest

The reported number of deaths from this disease was 35,803 as against 23,676 in the previous year. Two-thirds of the total mortality from rinderpest occurred in the districts of Anantapur, Malabar, Chingleput, Ganjām and Bellary. Tinnevelly, the Nilgiris, South Kanara and Nellore also suffered heavily. Kistna appears to be passing through a period of comparative immunity after several years of severe ravages from rinderpest. In the Madras City, there were 68 deaths as compared with 250 in the previous year.

The Cattle Disease Act was applied in all the badly infected districts. Compulsory inoculation was resorted to in several districts, and 61 persons were prosecuted for failing to bring their animals for inoculation. The total number of inoculations performed against rinderpest by the serum-alone method was 184,798 as compared with 181,781 in the previous year. Inoculations by the serum-simultaneous method, which confers permanent immunity, was performed on 6,182 bovines and 46 other animals. Only nine of these animals died after inoculation. A scheme is under consideration for an increase in the supervising staff for conducting the serum-simultaneous method of inoculation.

Other diseases

Other diseases which continued to be severe during the year were *haemorrhagic septicaemia*, anthrax, blackquarter and foot-and-mouth diseases. The report of mortality from anthrax rose from 4,612 in the previous year to 5,074 in the year under review. Blackquarter was less severe than in the previous year, Ganjām, Anantapur

and Vizagapatam being the only districts badly affected. Foot-and-mouth disease accounted for 2,792 deaths as against 1,454 in the previous year. There were 879 deaths from foot-and-mouth disease in Ganjām alone.

Miscellaneous

153. The Chemical Examiner examined the viscera of 45 animals, of which the staff of the Veterinary department conducted post-mortem in 35 cases. Poison was detected in 21 cases. The staff also examined 209 animals for malicious injury and issued certificates to the police.

The number of convictions obtained under the Act for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was 8,594 as against 5,941 in the previous year. Of these cases 2,663 related to Trichinopoly and 1,671 to Coimbatore district.

Veterinary College

154. The Veterinary College continued to work satisfactorily. There were 86 students at the end of the year as compared with 73 at the end of the previous year. The annual examinations were held in March 1928. There was a rise in the percentage of passes during the year. Four veterinary assistant surgeons of the Civil Veterinary department, Madras, three from Bihar and Orissa and one private student from the Federated Malay States, underwent the post-graduate course held from July to December. All but one of them were successful in obtaining the certificate issued by the college.

The number of cases treated at the college hospital was 2,737 as compared with 2,486 in the previous year. 3,811 specimens were received and examined in the laboratory during the year as compared with 3,010 in the previous year.

Finance

155. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 8·26 lakhs as compared with Rs. 7·49 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was greatest under the head "subordinate establishment," due to the general expansion of the department and to the large indents for anti-rinderpest serum. The receipts of the department amounted to Rs. 26,859 as against Rs. 23,937 in the previous year.

FISHERIES (1927–28)

[*Administration Report of the Department of Fisheries for the year ending 30th June 1928*]

General

156. Owing to the handsome revenue obtained from the two pearl fisheries held during the year, the transactions of the department resulted in a substantial profit. Towards the end of the year, a committee of officials and non-officials was appointed to examine the work of the department and report on the future policy to be adopted for its working and improvement.

Marine fisheries

The cannery

157. As in the last two years, the Chaliyam cannery continued to work directly under the control of the Director of Fisheries, with manufacture suspended. The year opened with a balance of 131,048 tins and closed with a balance of 23,672 tins. Out of the closing balance, 20,510 tins were written off as damaged goods. The number of sound tins remaining at the close of the year was only 3,162. An auction sale was held at the cannery in May 1927, to dispose of perishable stores. The sale was not a success. Further steps are being taken to dispose of the stores by other means.

Tānūr experimental station

At the Tānūr experimental station, experiments were conducted in the proper methods of skinning and curing sharks, for the determination of the proper proportion of salt for shelled prawns and mullan in wet and dry weather and for mackerel under Ratnagiri cure. Special attention was directed to the reduction and standardization of work by organizing labour. The production was 1½ times that of last year in cured products and 2½ times in fish-meal.

Private oil and guano factories

Owing to the failure of the sardine fishery, only 156 private oil and guano factories out of 470 factories actually worked during the year. The value of their output was about a third of that of last year's output.

Pearl and chank fisheries

From the financial point of view, the two pearl fisheries held during the year were the largest since 1801. They realized a net profit of Rs. 3,38,931. The first fishery lasted from the 9th November 1927 to 14th January 1928, while the second

commenced on the 1st March 1928 and had to be abruptly closed on the 7th April 1928 owing to an outbreak of cholera in the camp.

Chank fisheries were held both at Tuticorin and off the Rāmnād coast in the interval between the pearl fisheries and immediately after the closure of the second fishery. The net receipts obtained amounted to Rs. 31,775 as against Rs. 19,472 in the previous year.

Fish-curing yards

Owing to the favourable fishing season, the operations in the yards on the West Coast nearly doubled, while the operations in the yards in the Northern Circars and in the Nellore district declined, partly due to the poor fishing season and partly to the effects of the cyclone which passed over Nellore district in November 1927. The work of some of the yards on the East and West Coasts was not quite satisfactory. The expenditure during the year was comparatively high due to heavy transport charges. The expenditure of these yards was Rs. 4,56,050 while the revenue amounted to Rs. 4,40,393.

Deep-sea fishing experiments

The trawler made half a dozen experimental fishing cruises off Madras and sixty hauls off Manapad, Cape Comorin and Calicut. The use of the vessel for conducting deep-sea fishing experiments on a large scale is reported to be handicapped for want of better accommodation for the crew, a laboratory, a refrigerator and cold store room. The provision of these improvements is being considered.

Marine Aquarium

The Marine Aquarium at Madras continued to be popular and realized an increased revenue during the year. The number of visitors for the year was 104,401 as against 112,303 in the previous year ; but, as the number of visitors paying a higher rate was greater this year than in the year previous, the gate money was more in proportion to the number of visitors.

Oyster supply

The combined oyster and biological specimen supply section worked at a loss of Rs. 1,257. The Pulicat beds were not exploited during the year. There was a scarcity of marketable oysters in the Ennur beds.

Research

Sardine and mackerel investigations were continued at the West Hill Research station, Calicut. The work of collection and identification of the common edible fish in the Circars was proceeded with at Vizagapatam. A small laboratory is being established at Krusadai Island mainly for the study of problems connected with the pearl and chank fisheries.

Inland pisciculture

158. The revenue from inland fisheries fell from Rs. 1·05 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 1·01 lakhs in the year under review. This was mainly due to the failure of the monsoon. The expenditure rose from Rs. 1·01 lakhs to Rs. 1·14 lakhs resulting in a net loss of Rs. 12,948. The deep water fishing experiments at the Mopad farm were satisfactory and there is reason to believe that local fishermen are benefiting by the new methods of fishing introduced in the farm. The cyclone which passed over the Nellore district in November 1927, damaged the Ippur farm buildings to a considerable extent. Work of repairing the buildings is in progress. During the year some of the ponds in the Mopad and Praema fish farms were brought into working order and stocked with *gourami* and *etroplus*. Hatching experiments with *hilsa* were productive of better results than last year.

Socio-economic activities

159. The fishermen evinced an increasing interest in the education of their children. Greater attention has been paid this year to the teaching of fishery technique in the Fisheries Training Institute than in the previous year.

The co-operative movement, however, made little progress on the West Coast. There was a further fall in the membership and share capital during the year. The societies in the Malabar district appear to be improving slightly.

Finance

160. The transactions of the department during the year under review resulted in a net profit of Rs. 99,169. This is the largest figure recorded since the inception of the department. The marked success of the two pearl fisheries during the year was chiefly responsible for the profit. The working of the chank fisheries and the Aquarium also brought an increased revenue as

134066

compared with the previous year. Small profits were derived from the Tanur station and the Zoological supply section. The cannery and the fish and oyster farms were less remunerative.

WEATHER AND CROPS

(FASLI 1337—1ST JULY 1927 TO 30TH JUNE 1928)

[*Season and Crop Report for fasli 1337 ; Statistical Abstract for British India—Agricultural Statistics*]

South-west monsoon

161. The south-west monsoon commenced on the West Coast on the 27th May and, with periodical breaks, gave heavy rains from June to September. In the Circars, the monsoon became active about the middle of June and gave fairly good and well distributed rainfall till the 7th October. The Deccan and Nellore received good rains except in August. The rainfall in Coimbatore and Trichinopoly was normal. Most of the other districts received fairly good rains in the second and fourth weeks of June and in September, but the monsoon was poor during the rest of the period. On the whole, the south-west monsoon was up to or above the average except in South Arcot and Tanjore.

Water-supply

Water-supply was generally sufficient except in parts of Guntūr, Bellary, Anantapur, South Arcot, North Arcot, Salem and the South (Tanjore excepted). Freshes came down the main rivers copiously from July.

Sowings

Sowings of early crops were generally satisfactory or above normal.

North-east monsoon

162. Before the north-east monsoon set in, fairly good rains were received in the first half of October, except in Salem, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and the South. The north-east monsoon appeared over the Madras coast on the 20th October, but was feebly marked. Most of its activity was confined to the South till the 31st October. A depression formed on the 30th October between the Andamans and the Coromandel Coast and developed into a cyclonic storm which crossed the coast near

Nellore between the 1st and 2nd November. With the progress of the storm, rainfall was widespread in the Circars and Deccan and on the Madras coast. The most devastating fury of the storm was experienced in Nellore, where men and cattle perished and considerable havoc was done to buildings and trees. There was serious breakdown of communications. Rains continued in the district till the 17th November. Heavy rain was received between the 6th and 10th November all over the Presidency except the Circars and the Deccan. The monsoon practically came to an end thereafter, although there was slight rainfall in parts of the Carnatic and Southern districts. The monsoon was unsatisfactory in most districts, especially in Chingleput, South Arcot, the Central districts (Coimbatore excepted), Tanjore, and Malabar. It was, however, better than in the previous year.

Water-supply

Water-supply was generally sufficient except in parts of Bellary, South Arcot, and the Central and Southern districts.

Sowings

Sowings of late crops were generally restricted or below normal, especially in the Deccan. Reduction in the area under cultivation was marked in the case of wet crops, especially in the Central districts. The condition of late crops was generally fair except in parts of North Arcot, Coimbatore, and Tanjore which to some extent were affected by drought.

Rainfall in later season

163. Local rains were received on the Coromandel Coast, especially in Tanjore, between the 4th and 8th January. There were untimely rains between the 3rd and 8th February in most parts of the Presidency except the Circars. During the last week of March, there was widespread thunder storm and rain which continued until the 2nd of April. There were local thunder showers between the 9th and 17th April. The rainfall in May was generally below the average, especially on the West Coast.

Character of the season

164. On the whole, the season was generally good in the Circars and on the West Coast, fairly good in the Deccan, and not so good elsewhere.

The season for the Presidency, as a whole, could be called fairly satisfactory. This may be inferred from the fact that the area cropped was one of the highest reported.

Relief work

165. There were no relief operations under the Famine Code in the year.

Remissions

166. Land revenue had to be remitted on a comparatively large scale in the less favoured parts of Vizagapatam, Guntūr, Bellary, Chingleput, South Arcot, Chittoor (Rs. 1,78,222), North Arcot (Rs. 3,24,385), Trichinopoly and the South. In Nellore, a sum of about Rs. 48,000 was remitted on account of the damages caused by the cyclone. Parts of Bellary having been hard hit by the adverse season, the collection of the dry assessment due for fasli 1336 in the taluks of Bellary, (Rs. 2,32,792) and Rayadrug (Rs. 51,219), was postponed for a second time. Half of the suspended revenues of fasli 1336 in the taluks of Gooty and Tadpatri in the Anantapur district was collected in the year, owing to the favourable season.

HORTICULTURE (1927-28)

[*Report on the operations of the Department of Agriculture for the year 1927-28; Report of the Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras, for 1927-28*]

Government gardens

167. The Government Botanical Gardens at Ootacamund and at Coonoor are annually becoming more popular. They are favourite places of resort for the public. The Ootacamund gardens contain a unique and valuable collection of trees and shrubs. The collection of young plants from Australia and South America planted in Sim's Park, Coonoor, are growing successfully. Sales of seeds, flowers and plants from the Botanical Gardens at Ootacamund and Coonoor realized Rs. 4,847 and Rs. 895 respectively as compared with Rs. 4,930 and Rs. 948 in the previous year.

Agri-Horticultural Society, Madras

168. The gardens of the Madras Agri-Horticultural Society are situated at Teynampet, Madras. Plants, bulbs and seeds were received by exchange during the year from various sources, and were

planted in the gardens. Numerous improvements were made during the year in the ornamental garden.

The Eighty-ninth Annual Exhibition of flowers, fruits and vegetables was held in the gardens of the society on the 11th and 12th February 1928. The exhibition was a success.

FORESTS

[*Report on the administration of the Forest Department for the year 1927-28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Forests*]

General

169. The main feature of the administration for the year was the determination to concentrate on the collection of reliable data. An experiment on a considerable scale was started in the evergreen forests of the Silent Valley. Certain mature and overmature trees were marked for felling according to the selection method. Towards the close of the year, the felling and hand sawing of trees was begun, *mesua ferrea* being made into sleepers and other species, mostly *dichopsis* and *culophyllum*, into kolmarams. A similar experiment was started in the Tinnevelly evergreen forests.

Progress was made in the handing over of ryots' forests to panchayat management and it is anticipated that the transfer of all these forests will soon be completed.

Exploitation

Working plans

170. Two working plans prepared by the Working-plans staff were sanctioned during the year— the revised working plan for the Mudumalai forests in the Nilgiris and that for the Beypore tope in Nilambur. A working-plans officer was engaged in the reconnaissance of the South Mangalore forests. Revised working plans for the Mount Stuart forests in South Coimbatore and for the Ghoomsur sal forests in Ganjām were under preparation. The field work for the important Wynaad working-plan was finished and the writing of the plan is nearing completion. During

the year, the headquarters of the Logging Engineer's division were removed to Ootacamund, which facilitated co-operation between it and the working-plans officers.

Progress was made in the preparation of minor working plans and schemes by district forest officers.

Commercial undertakings

In the Chenat Nair reserve forest, exploitation operations were continued in the Elival Valley. The total quantity of timber extracted during the year was 157,748 cubic feet as against 159,120 cubic feet in the previous year. There was a profit in the sale of logs and forest sawn timber and a loss in the sale of sawn timber and manufactured boxes. The timber seasoning kiln at Olavakkot continued to work satisfactorily.

The exploitation operations in the Mount Stuart reserve resulted in a loss of Rs. 16,370 as compared with a loss of Rs. 1,55,178 in the previous year. Ninety-six thousand three hundred and forty-five cubic feet of logs were felled as compared with 77,723 cubic feet in the previous year. As old stocks were cleared up, the portable saw mill was removed from Pollāchi to Topslip towards the close of the year.

Operations in the Nilambur Valley forests resulted in a profit of Rs. 1,94,837 as against Rs. 1,32,838 in the previous year. The increase in the profit was mainly due to the lower production costs for big timber, the larger quantity sold and the better prices realized.

With a view to testing the demand for evergreen species, the work of removing a few trees by selection on an experimental plot of 67 acres was started in February 1928.

Timber fellings were carried on both departmentally and by contractors in the three Kurnool divisions of the Nallamalais.

Railway sleepers

The extraction of sleepers of *mesua ferrea* from the areas felled for the Government chinchona plantations near Valparai was continued during the year. Eleven thousand one hundred and forty-one broad gauge and 1,514 meter gauge sleepers were produced. The result of the operations was a net profit of Rs. 2,103.

Messrs. Parry & Co. continued to manage the mill. The result of the year's working was a net profit of Rs. 26,174 as compared with a profit of Rs. 8,389 in the previous year.

The agency of Messrs. Howard Brothers & Co., London, was terminated during the year. The appointment of agents for handling Madras timbers in various parts of the world is under consideration. Russellkonda saw mill. London agency.

171. The output of timber amounted to 96,520 tons as compared with 94,140 tons in the previous year. Four thousand six hundred tons of sawn timber were exploited by departmental agency and 47,820 tons by purchasers, as against 33,820 tons and 56,180 tons respectively in the previous year. **Supply of produce.** Timber.

During the year, 19,483 tons of fuel were removed by departmental agency and 280,767 tons by purchasers, as against 31,150 tons and 309,500 tons respectively in the previous year. The decrease in output by departmental agency and purchasers was largely due to the handing over of ryots' forests to panchayats. Fuel.

The value of bamboos removed from the forests by all agencies during the year was Rs. 3·52 lakhs as against Rs. 4·11 lakhs in the previous year. Bamboo.

Six hundred and seventy-seven tons of sandalwood were sold during the year and realized Rs. 9,24,295. The year's output, though smaller than that of the previous year by 47 tons, was yet far in excess of the ordinary possibilities of the forests. Sandalwood.

172. 12·3 per cent of the forests managed by the Forest department was closed to grazing either throughout or for part of the year. Grazing permits were issued for 1,616,224 animals as against 1,816,572 animals in the previous year, the decrease being due to the transfer of large areas of ryots' forests to panchayatdars. It is reported that permits were issued for 960,836 animals for grazing in panchayat forests. During the year, 77,585 animals grazed free of charge in the areas under the control of the Forest department as against 82,465 during the previous year. The revenue foregone by Government by allowing free grazing was Rs. 21,159 and further revenue foregone on **Grazing.**

account of privileged grazing amounted to Rs. 38,516. The estimated value of forest produce removed by free grantees and right holders amounted to Rs. 1,32,950, as compared with Rs. 68,036 in the previous year. The large increase was due to free grants made in Nellore, Chittoor, and in most of the Ceded districts to enable the villagers to re-build their houses which were destroyed by the cyclone of November 1927.

Sylviculture

173. The study of natural regeneration in tropical evergreen forests continued to receive close attention during the year. During recent years, the necessity of helping nature to replace exhausted stock in coppice forests exercised the attention of the working-plans and research officers. The prescriptions of the revised working plan for the Walayar forests have already resulted in a promising increase of teak plants, introduced artificially. Experiments with the same end in view were started recently near Mettupālaiyam in a mixed fuel forest.

Natural regeneration

Artificial regeneration

The trial of raising teak at Nilambur in conjunction with field crops was continued. As this method has given unsatisfactory results, the revised working-plan recently sanctioned does not contemplate its continuance, but prescribes a reversion to the methods which gave such success in the past. Great emphasis is laid on the necessity for adequate soil aeration. In the Mount Stuart plantations, alternative strips of varying width of teak and rosewood were introduced.

Tending

One of the most striking facts in many of the forests of Madras is the amount of damage caused by climbers. There is reason to believe that there has been a gratifying increase in the amount of tending afforded to areas under regeneration both by natural and artificial means.

Research

Steady progress was made in sylvicultural research. Various important prescriptions in recent working-plans are based on the accumulated experience of years of research.

General administration

174. About 73 square miles of reserve forest were disreserved. About 6 square miles in Guntūr were disreserved for assignment to the depressed

classes and 2 square miles in the Nilgiris were disreserved for the cultivation of plantation products. About 2 square miles were disreserved in Anantapur for leasing to the North Anantapur Gold Mining Company for prospecting purposes. The net result was a decrease of 73 square miles in the area of reserved forests, which, at the end of the year, was 18,954 square miles. About 6 square miles were added to the extent of reserved lands by rectification of areas in Tanjore and about 2 square miles were excluded by resurvey in Nilambur and the Parlākimedi Maliahs. There was thus an increase of 4 square miles in the area of reserved lands, which totalled 332 square miles at the close of the year. A total area of 3,353 square miles of reserved forests was under panchayat management during the year.

Settlement operations were in progress in respect of about 118 square miles. Considerable progress was made in the selection of blocks for reservation in the Rampa Agency and a reconnaissance report on the Golkonda forests was received. In South Mangalore, the settlement of three blocks was held over pending survey of the boundaries between Warg and Sircar kumries. The question of the reservation of nine more blocks was under consideration.

A total length of 97 miles of boundaries was demarcated. The demarcation of 16,577 miles of boundary lines were kept in repair.

A Survey of India Party traversed and surveyed the Kondapalle reserve forest in the Guntūr division. The Madras Survey Party completed the survey of the coffee estates on the Shevaroys and carried out the resurvey of the boundaries of the reserved forests of the Attur and Salem taluks.

Roads and communications

No new work of magnitude was executed during the year. The total expenditure on new works was Rs. 36,297 and on repairs Rs. 1,82,021. On the whole, 137 miles of new roads were constructed and 1,830 miles of old roads were repaired, as compared with 149 miles and 1,833 miles respectively in the previous year.

Buildings

The new major works carried out during the year consisted mainly of quarters for district

forest officers. The total expenditure on buildings incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 3·05 lakhs as compared with Rs. 2·11 lakhs in the previous year. Six residential buildings for district forest officers were completed during the year.

Other works

With the removal of the saw mill from Pollāchi to Topslip, the provision of water to the latter place became essential. The work of supplying water was completed at a cost of Rs. 14,484. A sum of Rs. 4,874 was spent during the year on the improvement of water-supply in grazing grounds. The total amount spent on the construction and repair of wells, eradication of rank growth, etc., was Rs. 26,713 as compared with Rs. 19,764 in the previous year.

Livestock.

The number of elephants in the possession of the department at the beginning of the year was 106. During the year, 25 elephants were captured, 2 were transferred from the revenue department, and six calves were born. Sixteen were sold, eight died, and one was killed by another elephant. The number of elephants at the close of the year, therefore, was 112 valued at Rs. 2,79,550. Sixty-four bullocks and buffaloes valued at Rs. 3,813 were in the possession of the department at the commencement of the year. Six were sold and six died. Twenty-three animals were purchased during the year. The stock at the end of the year was, therefore, 75 buffaloes and bullocks valued at Rs. 6,903.

Breaches of the Forest Act

During the year, 25,924 cases were disposed of under the Forest Act. The following table shows the nature of disposals:—

	1926-27.	1927-28.
Cases taken to court	6,033	6,402
Cases compounded	15,534	17,059
Cases withdrawn	1,936	2,463

Protection from fire

The increase in the number of forest offences was contributed mainly by offences falling under the heads "injury to forest by fire" and "unauthorized fellings." Of the 6,402 cases disposed of by magistrates, 3,918 ended in conviction and 2,484 in acquittal. The acquittals include cases in

which the accused elected to pay the compounding fees after the cases were reported to the magistrates. A sum of Rs. 1,84,468 was realized as compounding fees as compared with Rs. 2,04,339 in the previous year.

The modified form of early burning system was tried in many of the forests, during the year under review. In the Second Circle, attempts were made to burn early over extensive areas. The early burning system was found unsuitable to the South Mangalore forests. The area over which special fire protection, other than early burning, was attempted was 3,893 square miles, of which an extent about of 410 square miles was damaged by fires. The expenditure on special protection during the year was Rs. 31,897 as compared with Rs. 33,814 in the previous year. Rewards amounting to nearly Rs. 3,000 were given to villagers for assisting in fire protection.

Forest College

Thirty-two students passed out of the college in 1928. Of these, eleven were from the Central Provinces, eight from Bombay, two from Hyderabad, two from Orissa, besides one private student and eight Madras Government stipendiary students. There were no failures. The examination results were satisfactory.

Vernacular training

Vernacular training schools for the technical instruction of the subordinate staff were held in four circles with satisfactory results.

Forest panchayats

The total area handed over to panchayats, before the 31st March 1928, was 3,353 square miles of forest in charge of 1,130 panchayats. As a consequence of the transfer of reserves to panchayat management, it was possible to effect considerable retrenchment in the Forest Department.

The forest village system was in force during the year in three districts and worked satisfactorily in two of them.

Finance

175. The total revenue amounted to Rs. 51·28 lakhs as compared with Rs. 55·30 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure was Rs. 49·12 lakhs as compared with Rs. 50·58 lakhs in the previous year, leaving a surplus of Rs. 2·16 lakhs, in the year under review, as compared with Rs. 4·72 lakhs in

1926–27. The expenditure on works (including capital expenditure outside the commercial concerns) decreased by Rs. ·93 lakh. There was a decrease of Rs. 1·09 lakhs on establishments. The expenditure in England increased by Rs. ·37 lakh.

MINES AND QUARRIES (1927)

[*Report of the Director of Industries on the administration of Mines and Quarries for the year 1927; Statistical Abstract for British India—Mineral Production*]

Output

176. The principal minerals worked during the year were, as in the previous year, manganese in Vizagapatam and Bellary, magnesite in Salem, mica in Nellore and a small quantity in the Nilgiris, barytes in Kurnool and gold in Anantapur. There was a considerable increase in the output of manganese in the Vizagapatam district, while the output of manganese in Bellary, of magnesite in Salem and of mica in Nellore showed a decline during the year as compared with the previous year. Prospecting for asbestos continued to be carried on by the Mysore Development Syndicate in the Cuddapah district, during the year, and an increased quantity was raised. There was no production of steatite in the districts of Kurnool and Nellore during the year. There was a considerable increase in the output of barytes in the Kurnool district due to more favourable trade conditions. No iron ore has yet been won from the Kanjamalai mines in the Salem district. In the Anantapur district, the North Anantapur Gold Mines, Limited, ceased gold mining operations since August 1927. No diamonds were extracted during the year.

General condition of the employees

177. The general health of the employees continued to be satisfactory. The mines were free from epidemics during the year under review. The mines were inspected by various officers during the year. Wages of employees ranged from 2 annas a day for unskilled labour to Rs. 2–4–0 per day for

skilled labour. The relations between labour and employers were generally satisfactory in all the districts.

178. There were one fatal accident and three serious accidents in the mines in the Anantapur district during the year under report. These were the only accidents in the mines during the year. **Accidents**

INDUSTRIES (1927-28)

[*Report of the Department of Industries for the year 1927-28*; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Industries*]

179. The Industrial department participated during the year in a number of industrial and agricultural exhibitions held in various parts of the Presidency. A representative range of soaps, inks and finished leather was exhibited. Wherever possible, the working of the pumping and boring machinery and improved weaving appliances was also demonstrated. The most important of the exhibitions in which the department participated were the All-India Exhibition, held in Madras under the auspices of the Indian National Congress, the Exhibition held by the South Indian Athletic Association in conjunction with the Annual Park Fair, and the All-India Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held in Mysore. **General**

180. Ten applications for loans were considered by the Board of Industries during the year. Five of them were rejected on the ground that they did not come within the scope of the Act. One application was refused on the ground that the scheme of research for which the loan was asked for was unsound. A loan of Rs. 20,000 was sanctioned towards the working of the safety match factory at Bellary and the amount was disbursed together with a sum of Rs. 14,845 provided for the Carnatic Paper Mills. Two loans aggregating to Rs. 21,000 were sanctioned, though they could not be disbursed before 31st March 1928. The question of the future of the Carnatic Paper Mills continued to engage the attention of Government and it was found necessary to foreclose on the mortgage held by Government. **Loans**

PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTION

Assistance to trade and industry

181. The Bureau of Industrial and Commercial Information provides general and statistical information on industrial and commercial subjects. The volume of enquiries dealt with was maintained during the year under review and there was a steady increase in the number of persons who resorted to the Bureau for advice and assistance. The number of industrial and commercial inquiries received from the public and Government departments, in regard to the sources of supply and markets for various articles and commodities, was again large and covered a wide range. The department continued to compile statistics relating to industries, including statements of cotton, jute, paper and woollen mills, planting products and mines and minerals, besides an annual review of the working of the Indian Mines Act, as also the fortnightly return of wholesale prices of certain basic commodities at selected markets in certain districts of the Presidency.

Investigation

182. Proposals for the conduct of further experiments in coir-retting in the Tanjore district were being worked out at the close of the year. A bulletin on the decortication of groundnuts was written and published in English towards the end of the year and Tamil and Telugu translations of it have since been prepared. This bulletin was well received by the trade and the press. Substantial progress was made during the year in the carrying out of a survey of cottage industries in the Presidency. A special officer was appointed to carry out the survey. He entered upon his duties early in the year. By the end of the year the survey of cottage industries in eight districts had been completed.

Condition of major industries

183. Thirty-eight prospecting licences and 17 mining leases were granted during the calendar year 1927. Despite the general depression in the cotton textile industry, the majority of the mills appear to have worked fairly successfully during the year. During the year under review, the import duties on cotton textile machinery and mill stores and certain materials used in the industry were removed and a revised duty was imposed. The number of jute mills in the Presidency remained the same as in the previous year. A few of the

hosiery mills appear to have worked successfully, but, owing to severe competition, the margin of profit was small. The depression in the lace and embroidery industries continued during the year under review and lace-makers experienced difficulty in finding a steady market for their goods. The importance of the tanning industry in the Madras Presidency can be gauged by the fact that the annual exports of tanned hides and skins overseas in the last three years averaged about 16·23 per cent of the total foreign export trade of the Presidency. The value of tanned hides and skins exported from the Madras Presidency during the year under review was 17·73 per cent of the total value of foreign export trade. The position of the tanning industry was satisfactory from the point of view of the tanner. The oil industry, although extensive, appears to be capable of expansion, provided a good central market in this country is found for disposing of the oil manufactured. There are two power mills in Vizianagram which express oil from groundnut seed and produce a good quality of oil. These mills appear to have worked satisfactorily during the year. The number of sugar factories working in the Presidency declined from ten in the previous year to eight in the year under review. Shipments of Java sugar to China were affected by the political situation in the latter country. Imports of sugar showed a considerable increase over the figures of the previous year. Although there was a good demand for tiles from Colombo, Rangoon and several centres in Southern India, a number of tile factories in Mangalore and Cochin State had to close down, partly on account of insufficient capital and partly on account of the inferiority of their products. The demand for high class fertilizers continued to improve and considerable sums of money are now being spent on propaganda work by the large chemical companies which hope to export increasing quantities of manure to India. Cigar manufacturers are finding it difficult to maintain the volume of their export trade owing to the increased import duty imposed on cigars sent to foreign countries and to the fact that a cigar made of Indian leaf

compares unfavourably in weight with cigars of the same approximate size made of other leaf. The match, aluminium and pencil industries have shown satisfactory progress. The groundnut crop in the year under review was a record one. Owing to a great increase in the demand from Europe, large quantities of groundnut were readily sold at prices slightly above the average of the previous crop.

Government establishment

184. The department continued to manage the Government institutions established for the manufacture of soap, glycerine, ink-powder and fluid ink. In the Kerala Soap Institute, Calicut, soap valued at Rs. 1·09 lakhs was manufactured during the year as compared with Rs. 1·65 lakhs in the previous year. The sales decreased in value from Rs. 2·44 lakhs in the year 1926–27 to Rs. 1·82 lakhs in the year under review. This was due to a general depression in trade. A satisfactory feature of the year's working was that there was a considerable increase in the sales to the general public. A net profit of Rs. 5,000 was realized during the last quarter of the year. The year under review saw the inception of a scheme for the training of apprentices in soap manufacture.

The Government Industrial Institute, Madras, continued to manufacture standard fluid inks, ink tablets, and ink-powders. A new quality of marking ink was prepared. The decline in the output and sales observed in the year under review was largely due to the absence of the usual orders from the Superintendent of Stationery, hitherto the largest consumer of the products of the institute. The accounts showed a loss of about Rs. 9,000 on the year's working as compared with a profit of nearly Rs. 1,500 in the previous year.

Weaving

The activities of the Textile section of the department continued to cover not only the handloom industry, but also cognate subjects such as hosiery, lace and embroidery, dyeing, bleaching and cloth printing in addition to wool spinning, sericulture, silk filature reeling, silk throwing, textile education and the conduct of research

work in the sphere of textiles. The object of the department is to improve the technical side of the industry and to endeavour to improve its organization with a view to enabling it to meet the highly organized competition of the power-loom. The Textile Institute at Madras continued to impart theoretical and practical instruction in the operation of hand and power-driven textile machinery and in modern textile practice. On the 31st of March 1928, there were 52 students on the rolls of the Institute, 25 of whom were undergoing training in the supervisor's course and 27 in the artisan's course. Considerable progress was made during the last few years in the technical side of the industry, several important labour-saving appliances having been evolved and introduced.

Peripatetic weaving parties continued to demonstrate to weavers, dyers and cloth printers the advantages of adopting new appliances and methods. The Textile Institute now includes a Dyeing section and suitable machinery has been installed.

Sericulture

The fungus disease which broke out in 1925 could not be eradicated in spite of earnest efforts. As the disease reappeared during the year in a virulent form, the work of supplying disease-free seed to the rearers in Kollegal was affected. Accordingly, the question of abandoning the silk farm at Coonoor and of transferring its activities to a village in the Salem district is under consideration. Experiments in the breeding of silk worms were continued. Peripatetic rearing parties continued to advise rearers on rational methods of rearing worms in cottages, and to teach a number of intelligent rearers the use of the microscope.

Engineering branch

The Engineering branch continued to give information and advice on engineering questions free of charge provided no local inspections were involved. The number of such applications received rose from 164 in the previous year to 214 in the year under review. The erection of machinery and plant is now undertaken for a nominal fee of 2 per cent on the capital cost of the machinery installed, the charge for this service having been reduced

from the original rate of 2½ per cent to 2 per cent during the year. The number of plants erected during the year increased by 36. The capital invested in the plants, including the cost of building connected therewith, amounted to about Rs. 6 lakhs. The compounding system for the maintenance of engineering plants continued to grow in popularity with the result that the number of plants under maintenance by the department during the year was 500 as compared with 454 in the previous year. Loans under the Agriculturists' Loans Act were granted by Government on favourable conditions to ryots for the installation of pumping machinery. During the year under report, fifty applications for loans were disposed of and an aggregate amount of Rs. 1,03,300 was sanctioned for disbursement to 23 of the applicants. During the year under review, sanction was accorded for the purchase of three more power drills and thirty hand-boring sets. The total depth bored during the year was 43,171 feet as against 37,517 feet in the previous year. Scarcity of drinking water and absence of irrigation facilities in certain tracts of the Bellary district have led to the consideration of proposals for carrying on an extensive survey of underground water-supplies in the Presidency. There was a large demand for pumping plants for sinking wells and for other purposes of irrigation. The Industrial Engineering workshop attended to 595 work orders during the year as compared with 512 in the previous year, and turned out work to the value of Rs. 1,75,179 as compared with Rs. 1,09,260 in the previous year.

Industrial education

185. The following five Government industrial schools continued to be maintained :—the Government Trades School, the School of Arts and Crafts, the Government Industrial Institute, Madura, the Leather Trades Institute, Madras, and the Government Textile Institute. Two hundred and fifty-five new students entered the Government Trades School during the year, of whom 35 took the mechanical engineering course and 56 the electrical engineering course. The total strength of the school on 31st March 1928 was 425 as against 409 on the 31st March 1927. Sixty candidates

appeared for the examination held during the year, of whom 39 passed.

At the Madura Industrial Institute, 30 pupils were admitted to the probationary class during the year out of 61 applicants. The value of the work during the year amounted to Rs. 42,287, which was slightly below last year's figure..

No new students applied for admission to the Leather Trades Institute, and proposals were submitted to Government for the introduction of a modified course of training. Series of lectures in the vernacular continued to be given. The average attendance at these lectures was 12. The institute undertook during the year to supply 10,021 lb. of russet leather and 4,523 lb. of retanned sole leather for the Vellore jail.

In the School of Arts and Crafts, the number of pupils on the rolls on the 31st March 1928 was 466, of whom 15 were women. The average attendance during the year under report was 261 and the average number on the rolls was 498 as compared with 281 and 533 respectively in the previous year. There was a slight increase in the expenditure for the year, but the receipts from sales showed a satisfactory increase. The results of the various Government technical examinations held during the year were satisfactory.

In addition, 63 industrial schools recognized by the department were maintained. A sum of Rs. 89,699 was distributed to these institutions in the form of grants in aid. Several industrial scholarships were awarded during the year. At the end of the year, seven technical scholars from Madras were undergoing courses of training in the United Kingdom. Seven scholarships tenable at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, were awarded during the year and five scholarships tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, were also awarded. Sixty industrial school scholarships were awarded besides.

Finance

186. The net cost of the department was Rs. 11,31,622 as compared with Rs. 9,85,463 in the previous year.

Manufacture of quinine

187. The past year witnessed a steady market for quinine. The three cinchona plantations at Anamalais, Naduvattam and Dodabetta worked as

usual during the year. Over 1,500 acres in the three plantations were under cinchona cultivation on the 31st March 1928. In the quinine factory, the factory output was regulated on the basis of economic production. Over 37,000 lb. of quinine were manufactured during the year. The year's working realized a profit of Rs. 64,119. In December 1927, the department participated in the All-India Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition held at Madras.

MANUFACTURES

[*Report on the working of the Indian Factories Act, 1911, for the year 1927; Statement of cotton and jute mills in the Madras Presidency for the year 1927–28*]

Cotton and jute mills

188. During the year under review, there were 27 cotton mills in the Presidency, of which 25 were at work, as compared with 24 in the previous year. One mill has not been working for the past 3½ years, while another is not working at present. The total number of persons employed in the various mills was 40,842, of whom 26,966 were men, 8,198 women and 5,678 children

As in the previous year, there were four jute mills at work. The average number of persons employed daily in the jute mills was 5,624 as compared with 5,510 in the previous year.

The total number of spindles and looms in the cotton mills rose from 604,280 and 4,385, in the previous year, to 639,590 and 4,668 respectively in the year under review.

Other Industries

189. At the close of the year 1927, the number of factories, other than cotton and jute mills, governed by the Amended Indian Factories Act, was 991, of which 921 were classed as perennial and 70 as seasonal; the corresponding figures for the year 1926 were 824 and 69.

The following table shows the principal industries carried on at the various factories and the number of persons employed:—

Class of factories.	Persons employed.
Railway workshops	18,786
Rice mills	15,701
Brick and tile factories	6,381

Class of factories.	Persons employed.
Coffee works	4,312
Printing presses	4,256
Rope works	3,394
Sugar factories	2,676
Tea factories	2,205
Leather work and tanneries	1,791
Tobacco factories	1,576
Kerosene tinning and packing works ...	1,460
General engineering works	1,333
Coach building and motor repairing works.	1,014
Bone and manures and oil mills	985
Saw mills	619
Tramway works	540
Foundries (iron and brass)	525
Jewellery workshops	446
Aluminium works } Minerals and metals...	373
Metal works } Minerals and metals...	324

New industrial undertakings

. The number of new companies registered increased from 52 in the previous year to 64 in the year under review. Of the new registrations, nearly 60 per cent were trading and industrial concerns, 23 per cent banking and loan companies and the remaining 17 per cent miscellaneous companies. Only one new cotton mill was registered during the year. Among other companies newly registered were one match manufacturing concern, one gold thread manufacturing company and one tile works.

Factories (1927) General

190. At the close of the year 1927, the number of factories in the Madras Presidency, coming under the operation of the Indian Factories Act, was 1,381, an increase of 103 over that of last year's figure. Of these factories, 1,007 were perennial and 374 seasonal. Eighty factories were not worked, so that 1,301 factories were at work during the year. Eighty-six of the perennial and 304 of the seasonal factories were connected with the cotton industry. The average daily number of operatives, employed in the 1,301 factories, was 134,074 as against 127,411 in the previous year. The difference was due to the increase in the number of factories in the year under review. As usual, textile factories, including cotton and jute mills, gave employment to the largest number of hands. With the exception of engineering, paper printing and ginning and pressing industries, all the others recorded an increase in the number of persons employed. Industries relating to food, drink,

tobacco and textiles were the largest contributors towards this increase. Of the 134,074 operatives, 5,799 were employed in Government and Local Fund factories and the rest in private factories. The total number of women and children employed during the year was as follows :—30,860 women, 4,253 boys and 2,455 girls. The increase in female labour and in juvenile employment was chiefly due to the increase of such labour in coffee-curing works, coir rope works, tea, cashew and groundnut factories in the Western Circle and to the employment of such labour in factories newly registered during the year. The system of requiring certificates of age and physical fitness in the case of juveniles was fairly satisfactory. There was a considerable increase in the number of certificates issued during the year under review as compared with the previous year.

Inspections

During the year, 3,293 inspections were made as compared with 2,509 in the previous year. In addition, 239 factories were visited but were found closed.

Health

The health of the operatives was generally good. The dispensaries and medical aid provided in certain factories in the previous year continued during the year under review. Provision for the supply of medicines in three other factories was made during the year.

Sanitary arrangements of factory premises and their surroundings were well maintained. In cases of violation of the provisions of the Factories Act, prosecutions were launched and convictions obtained.

Wages

The average rates of wages paid in the various factories varied as compared with those paid in 1926. In nine cases of skilled labour there was an increase and in eleven cases there was a decrease. In unskilled labour there was a general increase except in two cases. Daily wages ranged during the year in the case of male skilled labour from As. 7-6 for jute spinners to Rs. 1-6-1 in the case of engine-drivers, and, in the case of unskilled labour, from As. 6-10 to As. 9-6 for men and from As. 4-5 to As. 5-8 for women.

Strikes

There were 26 strikes during the year. Nine were in cotton spinning and weaving mills (five in

Coimbatore district and four in Madras); one occurred in a tile factory in the South Kanara district, two in a jute mill and one in a running shed in Vizagapatam district, one in a jute mill in West Gōdāvari district, one in a jewellery workshop three in engineering workshops, three in oil installation works, three in printing presses, one in an aluminium factory, and one in a leather baling press in Madras.

Five strikes were due to disciplinary action taken by the management, one arose from a measure of retrenchment, eight accompanied a demand for higher wages or bonus, three were employed to enforce demands for amenities, five were "sympathetic," and the remainder were of a miscellaneous character. None of the strikes were of any importance. The strikes lasted for varying periods from 15 minutes to 114 days. The total strength of the factories affected was 31,657 of which the number that actually struck work was 14,303. Almost all the strikes failed to achieve their object.

Fires

There were six cases of fire during the year. There was no loss of life or injury. Over half of the estimated cost of the damage was covered by insurance.

Accidents

There were 1,233 accidents in factories during the year as compared with 1,263 in the preceding year. Of these, 11 were fatal and 260 were classed as serious. Of the 11 fatal and 260 serious accidents, 3 of the former and 97 of the latter were caused by machinery moved by mechanical power. Of the 260 serious accidents, 9 resulted in loss of limb, 4 resulted in partial loss of limb, 1 in complete loss of one eye, 1 in loss of vision in one eye, 3 in loss of fingers, 22 in partial loss of fingers, 2 in partial loss of earning capacity, 5 in loss of power and 2 in slight loss of power in the use of fingers or limbs. The majority of accidents, as usual, occurred in railway workshops. Many of the accidents were caused by the carelessness and ignorance of the operatives themselves. The workmen are not generally of a high intelligence. The existing form of instruction to guard against accidents is being amended with a view to make it more comprehensive and easily understandable.

The occupiers and managers of 145 factories, involving 160 persons, were prosecuted during the year under review for infringement of the Factories Act.

Prosecutions

Welfare work

The conditions obtaining in previous years continued. In the case of Commonwealth Factories, Endowment fund, Provident fund and Sick fund were started. Several factories took steps to better the condition of their employees by providing better medical facilities and free nourishment for the sick.

LABOUR AND DEPRESSED CLASSES (1927-28)

[*Report on the administration of the Labour Department for the year 1927-28*]

191. Substantial progress was made in the work of the Labour department during the year.

Labour unions

192. Only three unions were registered under the Act during the year, in spite of the fact that the Indian Trades Unions Act, 1926, came into force on 1st June 1927. Two other unions have since been registered in the current year. Most of the unregistered unions came into prominence only when there was an impending labour dispute, and nothing was heard of them after the disputes ended.

Labour disputes

There was unrest during the first half of the year in the City of Madras, and the unrest spread to Coimbatore in August and September. During April and May, there was acute trouble in the oil industry, beginning with a strike among the workmen of the Burma Oil Company. The strikes of the oil workers were followed by other strikes of considerable importance in the Diocesan Press, Messrs. Massey & Co. and the Government Public Works Workshops. In Coimbatore, three strikes occurred during the year. The third strike was of a general nature, in which all the labourers in the three mills struck work. Police assistance had to be called for ; and, after a tactful handling of the matter and prolonged negotiations, the strike came to an end in September 1927. The Madras and Southern Mahratta Railway men were considerably

agitated over the orders of the management to cut down the hours of work. Fortunately nothing untoward happened. Considerable discontent was caused in the South Indian Railway Workshops by the decision of the administration to concentrate all the workshops at a single centre, viz., Golden Rock, with a consequent large reduction in establishment. There was much talk of a general strike during the year under review.

Depressed classes

193. At the beginning of the year, special staffs for attending to ameliorative measures for the depressed classes were working in twelve districts, besides Malabar which continued to be under an honorary district labour officer. Operations were extended during the year under review to three other districts. The policy of confining the activities to a few taluks at a time, and of taking up fresh ones after the completion of those first investigated, was generally continued except in three districts, where the work was spread over the entire districts. The measures for the amelioration of the conditions of the depressed classes were carried on on the usual lines, viz., provision of house-sites, assignment of waste lands for cultivation, lease of valuable lands, organization and supervision of co-operative societies, establishment of schools and the provision of other educational facilities, construction of wells, repairs of ponds, provision of pathways, burial grounds, latrines and such other items of work as were calculated to benefit the depressed classes.

House-sites

Five hundred and three acres of Government land were assigned for the benefit of 2,305 families for the construction of house-sites during the year. The total number of sites provided since the inception of the department was 22,297 The assignment of Government land in these cases is free. Where private lands had to be acquired, applicants were required to make an initial deposit towards the cost of acquisition and the balance was advanced by Government and recovered in easy instalments. The total extent of land so acquired during the year was 173·87 acres at a cost of Rs. 1,16,158 and 3,074 sites were aligned. The total number of sites provided by acquisition since the inception of the department was 27,329.

Co-operation.

At the beginning of the year, there were 1,332 societies working. One hundred and ninety-three societies were organized and registered during the year, 22 were taken over from the Co-operative department, 2 were transferred to the Co-operative department and 10 were wound up. There were thus 1,535 societies at the end of the year and 144 pending registration. The objects of the societies were—

(1) the financing of acquisition of house-sites on the easy instalment system, (2) the financing of loans for agricultural purposes, (3) provision of facilities for the discharge of debts borrowed at high rates of interest from money-lenders, (4) collective sale and trade, and (5) relief for the persons affected by the floods of 1924. The house-site societies and flood relief societies are financed by Government. The lanka societies in Kistna district obtained loans from Government in the early years for agricultural purposes and they have almost entirely repaid the amount advanced.

Of the 1,535 societies, about 600 are financed by Government, 760 by the Madras Christian Central Bank and the rest by district banks.

Education

There was no change in the policy pursued in respect of the educational activities of the department. They consisted of the following items :—

(i) opening of special schools wherever necessary and payment of grants to philanthropic bodies and others interested in the education of the depressed classes ; (ii) maintenance of hostels or the payment of boarding grants ; (iii) grant of scholarships and stipends.

In the year under review, 271 new schools were opened as compared with 231 in the previous year. There were 1,178 schools at the end of the year with a strength of 36,885 boys and 5,914 girls. Of the total number of schools, 59 were night schools, 90 were combined day and night schools and the remaining were day schools. Forty-five new school sheds were constructed and 69 old ones repaired. Weaving was introduced in a school in the East Gōdāvari district. Of the 1,382 teachers employed in the various schools, 968 were trained teachers. As an experimental measure, honorary

visitors were appointed to inspect labour schools in South Kanara district.

Thirty-one thousand and twenty-seven acres of land were assigned during the year to members of the depressed classes as compared with 26,200 acres in the previous year. This brought the total extent of land so far assigned to depressed classes to 237,227 acres. Assignment of land

An amount of Rs. 4·47 lakhs was spent on the construction and repair of wells, provision of pathways to cheris, provision of burial and burning grounds, sites for wells, construction and repair of school sheds and other purposes for the welfare of the depressed classes. Most of this allotment was spent on the provision of wells and repairs to existing wells. In addition to the above expenditure, grants were made for the execution of well-works in several districts of the Presidency. General ameliorative work

194. The work connected with the reclamation of criminal tribes is supervised by the Labour department. Criminal tribes

195. There was no change in the number or management of the settlements during the year. The total population in these settlements on 31st March 1928 was 6,184, during the year under review, as compared with 5,810 in the previous year. Agriculture is the main occupation but industries, like weaving and carpet-making, have also been started as subsidiary occupations to fall back upon in years of famine. Criminal settlements

The year under report was satisfactory as regards the health of the settlers. There was a considerable increase of births over deaths.

In each of the settlements now working, a school is provided for the compulsory education of all children of school-going age. The two industrial schools continued to be under the management of the Salvation Army.

196. The work of reclaiming the Kallars continued to show substantial progress during the year. There were 970 Kallar villages in Madura and 64 in Rāmnād. All but one of these villages were under the control of panchayats. These panchayats proved themselves to be competent in reporting crimes, in assisting the local police in the Reclamation of Kallars

detection of crime and in the recovery of property. Thirty-two new societies were registered during the year bringing the total number of co-operative societies to 263. Ten new schools were opened during the year, bringing the total to 348 with a strength of 11,634 boys and 1,966 girls. Attention was concentrated more on improving the existing schools than on increasing the number of schools. Vocational training was given in weaving carpentry, tailoring and mat-making to the Kallar boys in several boarding homes. The work of the boarding homes showed great promise. The Scout movement developed steadily. There were 12 troops in the Kallarnad with more than 600 boy scouts and girl guides. There were ten industrial centres working during the year. Land to the extent of 679 acres was assigned to the Kallars on darkhast during the year and a sum of Rs. 9,650 was disbursed as loan under the Agriculturists' Loans Act. A further sum of Rs. 31,095 was granted as loan under the Land Improvement Loans Act. In Tanjore, 155 panchayats were formed during the year bringing the total number to 350. Twenty-eight co-operative societies were organized, of which 24 were registered during the year. Forty-one new schools were started during the year, making a total of 117 at the end of the year with a strength of 3,700 boys and 300 girls. There was a distinct improvement in the average attendance of girls at schools.

Criminal Tribes Act

197. The revision of the statutory rules under the Criminal Tribes Act having been completed, the task of extending sections 3 and 10 of the Act to communities not hitherto registered was taken up. Thirteen tribes were proclaimed. Section 10 of the Criminal Tribes Act was applied to Donga Yerakalas of Bellary district. Under section 11 of the Act, the movements of Telaga Pamulas were restricted to the plains of Ganjām, Vizagapatam and East Gōdāvari districts and they were thus prevented from entering the Agency tracts. Fresh registrations under the Act numbered 2,460, while 5,580 were removed from the registers for good conduct or other causes. In cases in which the criminal tribe members were found to be leading honest lives or were too old or too weak to commit

crime, the restrictions imposed under section 10 (1) (*a*) were relaxed and, as far as can be seen, this discretion has been wisely exercised and has not resulted in an increase in crime. The communal panchayat system is reported to be working well in certain parts of the Ganjām and Anantapur districts and attempts are being made to introduce it among other tribes which show a tendency to reform from within.

SEA-BORNE TRADE (1927–28)

[*Report of the Sea-borne Trade of the Madras Presidency for the year 1927–28; Annual volume of the Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of the Madras Presidency; Statistical Abstract for British India—Foreign Trade and Shipping; Review of the Trade of India; Accounts relating to the Sea-borne Trade of British India; Annual Statement of the Foreign Sea-borne Trade and Navigation of British India, 2 vols.; Annual Statement of the Coasting Trade and Navigation of British India*]

General summary

198. The aggregate value of the sea-borne trade of the Madras Presidency was Rs. 106·59 crores and showed an increase of Rs. 14·21 crores or 15·39 per cent as compared with the previous year. Government transactions accounted for Rs. 54·34 lakhs of the total value. The total value of the foreign trade in private merchandise increased by 16·16 per cent to Rs. 68·84 crores. Imports showed an advance of 15·56 per cent and exports of 16·52 per cent as compared with the previous year.

Foreign trade

Imports

199. Foreign imports of private merchandise valued at Rs. 2,456 lakhs, showed an increase of Rs. 331 lakhs as compared with the previous year. This was due to larger imports of metals, grains and pulses, railway plant and rolling stock, motor vehicles, machinery and rubber manufactures. Imports of metals amounted to Rs. 377 lakhs, showing an increase of Rs. 131 lakhs over the figures of last year. This was the result of heavy receipts of (1) articles for the construction of new railway lines, (2) beams, channels, pillars, girders and bridgework because of the increased activity in constructional work and (3) pipes, tubes and fittings required in connexion with the harbour

works at Cochin and Vizagapatam. Grains showed a total trade of Rs. 68·65 lakhs as against Rs. 1·24 lakhs in the previous year. The large increase was due to unprecedented imports of rice from the Straits Settlements, Siam, Indo-China, Java and the Federated Malay States. Owing to the failure of rains during the year, the rice crop was below normal in parts of the Presidency. With the rapid growth of motor transport in the Presidency, imports of motor vehicles have steadily increased since 1924; the movement has been accelerated, recently, by the general lowering of prices and the reduction of duty.

Exports

Foreign export trade in private merchandise aggregated Rs. 4,427 lakhs, which was an increase of Rs. 627 lakhs over the figures of the previous year. The most important articles exported were seeds, leather, coffee and spices. Seeds showed a total value of Rs. 1,258 lakhs, or an increase of Rs. 338 lakhs over the year 1926-27. More than 96 per cent of the total trade in seeds consisted of groundnuts, shipments of which advanced by 48 per cent in quantity and 45 per cent in value during the year. The increase was due to (*a*) greater demand owing to the revival of normal trade conditions in Europe, (*b*) increased yield of the crop and (*c*) greater facilities in securing freights to continental ports. Leather export increased from Rs. 644·42 lakhs in the previous year to Rs. 783·77 lakhs in the year under review, and was responsible for nearly 18 per cent of the total export trade. Exports of coffee increased by 86 per cent in quantity and 76 per cent in value during the year. This was due to better crops and a greater demand from the United Kingdom and France. Pepper was the most important spice exported. Export of pepper increased in the year under review by 82 per cent in quantity and 137 per cent in value as against the previous year. This large increase was due to (1) the partial failure of Lampong pepper and (2) the large outturn of the Malabar crop in 1926–27 available for export during 1927–28. The average declared value of pepper, which was Rs. 55 per cent in April 1927, rose to Rs. 98 per cent in March 1928.

200. Imports of gold on private account advanced from Rs. 4·45 lakhs to Rs. 232·27 lakhs. The increase was due to the direct importation of sovereigns from Natal and the United Kingdom instead of by rail through Bombay as in the previous year. **Treasure**

201. The aggregate value of coasting trade increased by Rs. 260 lakhs or by 8 per cent, Rs. 3,452 lakhs representing private merchandise and Rs. 23 lakhs, Government stores and treasure. Imports of grain and pulse from Burma also contributed to the increase. **Coasting trade**

202. About 57 per cent of the foreign trade of the Presidency was with the British Empire. The trade with the United Kingdom represented 38 per cent of the trade with the British Empire. The remaining 43 per cent of the trade of the Presidency was principally with Germany, France, the United States of America, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Java and Japan. **Trade by countries**

203. Facilities at the port of Madras continued to increase and trade responded with a rise of nearly 14 per cent; the total value of trade on private account at the port of Madras was Rs. 4,772·70 lakhs as against Rs. 4,197·36 lakhs in the previous year. Foreign trade expanded by Rs. 477·36 lakhs or by 14 per cent. The foreign trade of the subordinate ports was Rs. 3,093·21 lakhs. The ports which contributed more than Rs. 100 lakhs each were Cocanada, Cuddalore Negapatam, Dhanushkodi and Tuticorin, on the East Coast and Cochin, Calicut, Mangalore and Tellicherry on the West. **Trade by ports**

204. The total number of vessels entered and cleared during the year increased from 2,963 to 3,046 and their tonnage from 4·23 million tons to 4·67 million tons. The average tonnage of British vessels was 3,164 tons and that of foreign vessels 3,860 tons. British vessels accounted for 72 per cent of the total tonnage and British-Indian and native craft for 2 per cent. The tonnage of foreign vessels was 26 per cent of the whole. **Shipping** Foreign trade

PUBLIC WORKS

[*Administration Report of the Public Works Department, Madras Presidency, for the year 1927–28*]

Administrative changes

205. During the year under review, the two hydro-electric divisions, viz., the Hydro-Electric Scheme division and the Pykara Project division, were placed under the control of a separate chief engineer, specially engaged on a covenant for five years, for the development of the hydro-electric resources in the Presidency. A separate division named the Narasapatam division was constituted to carry out all the works in the Golkonda Agency.

Two new conservancy subdivisions, viz., Gowtami and Vasishta, were formed in the Waltair circle and added to the Gōdāvari Headworks division. One special subdivision was constituted for the construction of the Kolab bridge works. The roads that were hitherto maintained by the Agency district board and the Agents to the Governor, Ganjām and Vizagapatam, were taken over by the Public Works department, from 1st April 1927. All the road works and rest-houses in the Rampa Agency were also provincialized. In the Coimbatore circle, two additional subdivisions were formed during the year, one for giving relief to the South subdivision, Calicut, which was attached to the West Coast division, and another for carrying out the work of constructing a girder bridge across the Cauvery near Sivasamudram which was attached to the Salem division. The Special subdivision formed in 1925 for carrying out the urgent protective works at the Periyār dam was amalgamated with the Uttamapālaiyam subdivision, Madura division.

Chief Engineer's office (Buildings and Roads)

Consulting Architect's section

206. The Consulting Architect's section was as usual engaged in the normal work of preparing drawings and estimates for important buildings. Among the important designs prepared in the section, mention may be made of the Madras General Hospital—Surgical, Operation, X-Ray and Venereal blocks—and the Uttamapālaiyam taluk office. The value of buildings for which detailed estimates were prepared was about Rs. 20 lakhs,

excluding approximate estimates prepared for administrative purposes.

In the Deputy Consulting Architect's section, the value of buildings designed and estimated for including educational schemes amounted to about Rs. 75 lakhs. One hundred and ten cases of educational buildings were scrutinized during the year.

Technical section

In the Technical section, 233 estimates of the aggregate value of Rs. 246·63 lakhs were scrutinized. Of these, 152 estimates related to buildings, 16 to water-supply schemes, 4 to drainage schemes, 29 to bridges and causeways and 7 to roads. There were, in addition, 25 miscellaneous schemes. Among the estimates scrutinized, there were 62 estimates costing over a lakh of rupees each.

Electrical works

About 400 original works were in progress during the year. The expenditure on original works was Rs. 1,81,094 as against Rs. 1,56,999 in the previous year. The total value of all Government installations in charge of this department was Rs. 26,12,220 and the amount spent on their maintenance was Rs. 1,62,630 as against Rs. 1,29,496 in the previous year. The increase in the cost of maintenance is due to some of the old installations having been renewed.

CIVIL WORKS (1927-28)

Works

207. The total expenditure on civil works for the year (works and repairs under all heads), including expenditure on deposit works but excluding irrigation works, was Rs. 117·45 lakhs, as compared with Rs. 92·57 lakhs in the previous year.

Buildings

The total expenditure on the King George Hospital, Vizagapatam, was Rs. 9·42 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 10·58 lakhs. The matron's and nurses' quarters, driver's quarters, 50 additional servants' quarters, the maternity ward of 40 beds and sheds for ambulance car and motor garages were completed and handed over to the Medical department. A sum of Rs. 2·67 lakhs was spent, to the end of the year on the medical school and hospital buildings,

Guntūr, as against the estimated cost of Rs. 7·26 lakhs. Quarters for the Reserve Police at Ellore and the Collector's office at Ellore were commenced during the year. The work of constructing an additional block for the Central Record Office, Madras, was almost completed. The total outlay to the end of the year on the construction of additional blocks for the Royapuram Medical School was Rs. 3·11 lakhs as against the estimated cost of Rs. 3·71 lakhs. The court-house for the Court of Small Causes, Madras, the new court-house for the District Judge, Kurnool, and additions and alterations to the Secretariat and Legislative Council buildings, which were commenced during the previous year, continued to be in progress. The last-mentioned work was almost completed. A total expenditure amounting to Rs. 4·58 lakhs was incurred to the end of the year on the leper settlement, Tirumani, as against the estimated cost of Rs. 4·69 lakhs. Several sub-works in this connexion were completed. The quarters for the G Division Police, estimated to cost Rs. 1·2 lakhs, and the Tuberculosis Jail, Bellary, estimated to cost Rs. 1·26 lakhs, were commenced during the year and fair progress was made in the latter. Against the estimated cost of Rs. 2·56 lakhs for the science block, Queen Mary's College for Women, and Rs. 1·05 lakhs for additions to the science laboratory, Ceded Districts College, Anantapur, a total outlay of Rs. ·76 lakh and Rs. ·68 lakh was incurred on them respectively. Substantial progress was made on the work of improvements to Alipuram Jail, Bellary, on which a sum of Rs. 74,242 was spent during the year. The work of remodelling the General Hospital, Madras, estimated to cost Rs. 39 lakhs, was taken up in the year, and temporary sheds, estimated at Rs. ·56 lakh, were completed. An expenditure of about Rs. 1·6 lakhs was incurred on the improvements to the spinning plant in the Central Jail, Coimbatore, and the total outlay on the work to the end of the year was Rs. 2·9 lakhs, as against the estimate of Rs. 3·3 lakhs. An additional ward of 100 beds for the headquarter hospital, Coimbatore, estimated at Rs. 3·37 lakhs, the jail for females

at Vellore, estimated at Rs. 2·48 lakhs, and the new headquarter hospital, Madura, estimated at Rs. 15·99 lakhs, were commenced during the year. A total outlay of Rs. 1·41 lakhs was incurred on the quarters for the Armed Reserve Police, Trichinopoly, which is estimated to cost Rs. 1·7 lakhs.

Roads and bridges

The reconstruction of the Kuttupozha bridge, estimated to cost Rs. 1·15 lakhs, and of the Coleroon bridge at Trichinopoly, estimated at Rs. 14·53 lakhs, was completed during the year. The work of constructing the bridge across the Kolab river and of converting the railway bridge over the Hagari river at Bellary into a combined road and railway bridge, and the formation of an approach road thereto were in progress. The latter, estimated to cost Rs. 2·1 lakhs, was nearing completion.

Water-supply and drainage schemes

The water-supply schemes of Ellore, Palacole, Bellary, Coimbatore and Tuticorin were in progress during the year. The Madura drainage scheme was nearly completed. An expenditure of Rs. 41 lakhs was incurred on it up to the end of the year, as against the estimated cost of Rs. 44 lakhs.

Workshops

208. The value of work done in the workshops of the Public Works department at Madras, Dowlaishwaram, and Bezwada was Rs. 7·52 lakhs, as against Rs. 8·10 lakhs in the previous year.

ELECTRICITY (1927-28)

Development

209. Madras has been no exception to the general movement throughout the world for replacing all other forms of energy by electricity. Since 1907, when the first electric supply undertaking was started in the Madras City, the number of undertakings and quantity of power developed have been steadily increasing throughout the Presidency until now there are twelve towns with electric supply undertakings working and over 350 other electric installations.

The offer of Government to supply technical advice has been freely availed of and a sum of nearly Rs. 8,000 was collected during the year from municipalities as fees for professional advice.

The application of the Madras Electric Supply Corporation for an extension of their supply to Mambalam, Saidapet, Guindy and St. Thomas' Mount was ultimately dropped by them.

Licences

Five new licences for the supply of electrical energy to provincial towns were granted during the year. Substantial progress was made towards the establishment of electrical supply at Madura, Kanadukathan, Trichinopoly-Srīrangam and Rajahmundry. The Ootacamund municipality has been experiencing shortage of power owing to the inability of the Cordite Factory Power Station at Kateri to supply its increasing demands. Full supply will be available when the Government hydro-electric scheme matures.

Accidents

There were 16 accidents in the year under review, of which 8 were serious and 2 proved fatal.

The Indian Electricity Act, 1910

Two new rules under the Act were introduced by the Government of India, whereby licensees and consumers are required to use only the services of certified wiremen for wiring purposes. A few of the Presidencies have accepted the new rules, but the Government of Madras have decided for the present not to bring these rules into force in the Madras Presidency.

Boilers (1927-28)

210. The number of boilers inspected during the year was 2,028 as against 1,750 in the previous year. One thousand four hundred and forty-two certificates were issued as compared with 1,412 in the previous year. In addition to these, 163 cursory inspections and inspections under steam were made. Applications for the registrations of 112 boilers were received, of which 69 were registered. Eight boilers were transferred to this Presidency. The renewal of certificates for 26 boilers and the registration of a second-hand boiler were refused. The following boilers, which do not come under the operation of the Indian Boilers Act, 1923, were also inspected:—Seven boilers in floating vessels belonging to the Port department and 15 boilers in floating vessels on inland waterways.

Ten boilers met with accidents during the year, but no injury was caused to person or property. Accidents

The net receipts for the year amounted to Rs. 76,977 and the expenditure to Rs. 76,859 as compared with Rs. 68,891 and Rs. 70,869 respectively in the previous year. Finance

CANALS (1927-28)

211. Navigation was carried on as usual on the Dumagudem, Gōdāvari, Kistna, Kurnool-Cuddapah, Buckingham, West Coast and Vēdāranniyam canals. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·99 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·41 lakh over the figure of last year. The increase occurred chiefly in the Gōdāvari, Kistna and West Coast cānals. The increase in the Gōdāvari canals occurred under "Six weeks' licence fees" and "Government boats and steamers." There was an increase in the hire of vessels and licence fees in the Kistna canals and the increase in the West Coast canals was due to tolls levied at a new station at Olavanna on the Beypore-Kallai canal.

IRRIGATION (1927-28)

212. The expenditure incurred on irrigation works (including capital expenditure on new works) rose from Rs. 183·81 lakhs to Rs. 216·52 lakhs and the revenue derived therefrom from Rs. 280·75 lakhs to Rs. 289·38 lakhs. The area charged as irrigated was 7,190,939 acres or 177,996 acres more than the figure for last year. Gross expenditure and revenue

Productive works showed a return of 8·90 per cent as compared with 10·64 per cent in the previous year.

213. Works for which capital and revenue accounts are kept are divided into (*a*) irrigation works, (*b*) navigation, embankment and drainage works, each class being subdivided into "productive" and "unproductive." The classification of a work as productive or unproductive is based upon the financial results of three consecutive years. Irrigation works

Productive works—Capital outlay

The capital outlay on irrigation works—productive (direct and indirect)—rose from Rs. 77·60 lakhs to Rs. 108·71 lakhs and was expended chiefly on the Kistna delta, the Lower Coleroon and the Cauvery delta systems, the Cauvery-Mettur project and the Polavaram Island project. In the Polavaram Island project, the improvements to Wadapalem and Chintalanka lock chamber walls were practically completed and wells for the Annampalli aqueduct were built and sunk for about half the length. In the Kistna delta, the construction of locks and regulators across the Ellore and Bandar canals was completed and the diversion of the Nallamada drain made rapid progress during the year. The construction of ten additional vents to the Lower Coleroon Anicut was completed during the year. In the Cauvery delta, the construction of a road dam above the Grand Anicut was in progress, and the improvements to the lower reaches of the Cauvery from the infall of the Ayyavayyanar to the sea were completed. In the Cauvery-Mettur project, the following works were completed:—The road from Erode to Mettur, and those at the head works; the power house; the high level reservoir for water-supply and the erection of the preliminary power plant. Electric lighting was begun during the year. Work on the Coffer dam and excavation for the foundations of the dam, and the collection of materials, such as concrete metal, etc., made satisfactory progress.

The total area under first and second crop charged as irrigated was 3,282,617 acres and 490,463 acres, respectively, as against 3,267,145 acres and 502,455 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Productive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 186·06 lakhs and Rs. 54·07 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 186·88 lakhs and Rs. 50·53 lakhs in the previous year. The net revenue due to improvements was Rs. 84·10 lakhs as against Rs. 88·62 lakhs in the previous year, representing a return of 8·90 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 9·45 crores, as against 10·64 per cent in 1926–27. After deducting interest charges, the profit for the year was Rs. 51·98 lakhs, as compared

with Rs. 61·42 lakhs in the previous year. The accumulated profits up to the end of the year amounted to Rs. 26·72 crores. When compared with the previous year, the gross revenue showed a decrease of Rs. ·82 lakh. The decrease was marked under the Gōdāvari and the Kistna delta systems and the Chembrambakkam tank. In the Gōdāvari delta, there was a fall in second crop cultivation. In the Kistna delta large remissions were granted. There were also large remissions and decrease in cultivation under the Ganjām minor rivers system, and the Pālār, Poiney and Tirukkōyilūr anicut systems.

Unproductive works—Capital outlay

The capital outlay on irrigation works—unproductive (direct and indirect)—was Rs. ·02 lakh and was incurred chiefly in connexion with the Rūshikulya system. The area under first and second crop, charged as irrigated, was 245,235 acres and 18,223 acres, respectively, as against 249,548 and 16,370 acres in the previous year.

Revenue and working expenses (Unproductive works)

The gross revenue and working expenses amounted to Rs. 9·35 lakhs and Rs. 4·63 lakhs, respectively, as against Rs. 9·83 lakhs and Rs. 4·48 lakhs in the previous year. Of the net revenue of Rs. 4·72 lakhs, the portion due to improvements was Rs. 3·05 lakhs. After deducting interest charges, the deficit for the year was Rs. 10·14 lakhs.

Remissions

The remissions granted under "productive" and "unproductive" works amounted to Rs. 2,39,715 and Rs. 22,295, respectively, as against Rs 2,56,477 and Rs. 33,406 in the previous year. The areas affected were mainly the Kistna delta, the Pālār anicut and the Madras Water-supply and Irrigation systems.

Navigation works—Unproductive

214. There were three works under this class, (viz.), the Ganjām-Gopalpūr canal, the Buckingham canal and the Vēdāranniyam canal. The gross receipts and charges amounted to Rs. 75,916 and Rs. 3,14,473, respectively, as against Rs. 76,522 and Rs. 3,32,381 in the previous year. There was thus a loss of Rs. 2,38,557 to Government on the working of the canals as against Rs. 2,55,859 in 1926–27.

215. The outlay on this class of works including that incurred by officers of and accounted for by the Civil department was Rs. 32·02 lakhs as against Rs. 38·12 lakhs in the previous year.

Irrigation works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

The area charged as irrigated rose from 2,977,425 acres to 3,154,401 acres. The increase was due to the favourable character of the season. The revenue inclusive of the amount collected by the Public Works department was Rs. 92·48 lakhs against Rs. 82·63 lakhs in the previous year.

Tank Restoration Scheme

The total area coming within the scope of the Tank Restoration Scheme investigation was 102,500 square miles. During the year, 449 square miles were investigated, bringing the total to 86,321 square miles. An area of 348 square miles was entered upon during the year. Works were completed for 81,815 square miles of the area investigated, were in progress in 2,208 square miles and were yet to be begun in the remaining 2,298 square miles. Estimates valued at Rs. 2·82 lakhs for Government works were sanctioned. The total amount sanctioned under this head from the beginning of the operations up to the end of the year was Rs. 176·20 lakhs. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 2·60 lakhs or Rs. 3·24 lakhs including percentage charges.

Navigation, embankment, drainage works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept

216. The outlay incurred on navigation, embankment and drainage works for which capital and revenue accounts are not kept rose from Rs. 12·90 lakhs to Rs. 17 lakhs and the revenue from Rs. ·63 lakh to Rs. ·74 lakh.

Investigation of projects

217. An estimate amounting to Rs. 3 lakhs, for providing travelling cranes for raising the falling shutters of the Gōdāvari anicut, was prepared. The Coringa Island project was postponed, pending the completion of the Polavaram Island project now under execution.

In the Kistna delta, proposals were under investigation for the construction of inlets and outlets in the Ellore canal for controlling the

Budameru floods. The excavation of a branch channel for the Vempad block and the extension of the East Bank canal for irrigating short crop on about 22,000 acres were also under investigation.

The Tungabhadra project was under investigation and contour levels were being taken to work out the capacity of the reservoir. With a view to push on the investigation, a special division was sanctioned at the end of the year. The plans and estimates for the Kannapalle project in the Anantapur district were under preparation and the estimate for the Thokkapalle project in the Kurnool division was under revision.

The Upper Bhavāni project was abandoned in favour of the Lower Bhavāni project, and the revenue aspects of the latter scheme were under examination. Proposals for remodelling the Arkenkottah and Thadapalle channels were under consideration. Proposals to remove the drainage difficulties in the Shiyali taluk and in the middle section of the Tirutturaippūndi taluk were under consideration. For the disposal of the upland drainage above and below the Cauvery-Vennar regulators, investigations were made and estimates prepared.

218. A cyclone of unprecedented severity visited the Guntūr, Nellore and Cuddapah districts in November 1927 and caused considerable damage to irrigation works and also to several buildings. Some tanks in the Kurnool district and the Buckingham canal were also affected by the cyclone. Prompt steps were taken to repair the damages in all the places. **Floods**

HYDRO-ELECTRIC DEVELOPMENT

219. In connexion with the Pykara Hydro-electric scheme, three programmes were submitted to Government during the year under review. The first two assume the electrification of certain sections of the South Indian Railway over a

varying period of years and the transmission of power to Madura, Trichinopoly, and Dindigul towns and the Coimbatore district and the Nilgiris. The third scheme assumes that the South Indian Railway will decide not to electrify, and contemplates only the transmission of power to Coimbatore and the Nilgiris. None of the schemes includes Madras at the outset, but, there is reason to believe, that, within a few years of the inauguration of an extensive hydro-electric power service, it will be economically feasible to extend the transmission line to Madras.

Drawings and specifications which were common to all the three schemes were under preparation.

Only preliminary survey, investigation of foundations and similar studies were undertaken at Pykara during the year. The question of the immediate construction of certain preparatory works which are common to all the schemes is under consideration.

The Pāpanāsam scheme in the Tinnevelly district and the Kolab scheme in the Vizagapatam district are being investigated.

TRAMWAYS (1927-28)

220. The Madras Electric Tramways is the only system of its kind in the Presidency, and operates at present over a route mileage of 16 miles and 164 yards. The Madras Electric Supply Corporation supplies the current. During the year, 92 tram cars, one special car and one car for carrying road metal, were in operation, the daily average number of cars used being 72. The cars ran a total distance of 2,371,646 miles and carried 12,759,800 passengers as compared with 2,009,447 miles and 10,084,266 passengers in the previous year. Four new cars were constructed during the year under review.

CHAPTER V

REVENUE AND FINANCE (1927-28)

[Statistical Abstract for British India—Finance]

REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL

(a) GROSS REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

Revenue and expenditure

221. The following statements give the figures for each of the past two years of Central and Provincial revenue and expenditure, as well as the capital expenditure on State Railways, Irrigation Works and Civil Works not charged to Revenue, but excluding expenditure on such heads as Army and Posts and Telegraphs:—

A.—Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1926-27.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
I. Customs	4,07,58,727	4,31,20,265	...	...
II. Taxes on Income	1,28,12,904	1,33,54,848	4,64,223	5,94,325
III. Salt	1,43,01,311	1,44,54,900	...	...
IV. Opium	...	...	...	...
V. Land Revenue	...	...	7,54,31,549	7,54,35,103
VI. Excise	...	...	5,10,52,686	5,34,37,219
VII. Stamps—				
A. Non-Judicial	...	...	1,02,11,842	1,02,97,102
B. Judicial	...	...	1,50,18,254	1,47,14,115
V Forest	...	...	56,23,960	53,44,431
IX. Registration	...	...	40,52,920	39,05,522
X. Tributes from Indian States	9,96,519	9,96,519	...	...
XI. State Railways—				
Gross receipts	*18,67,72,846*	*14,49,67,081*		...
Deduct—Working expenses	*8,37,41,554*	*9,61,19,215*		...
Net receipts	5,30,30,692	4,88,47,866		...
XII. Subsidized Companies ...	24,180	5,911		...

A.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Receipts*—cont.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.	
	1926-27.	1927-28.	1926-27.	1927-28.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
XIII. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are kept	...	...	(—) 42,17,605	(—) 45,38,035
XIV. Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works for which capital accounts are not kept	...	...	1,12,660	1,42,890
XVI. Interest	6,68,233	6,57,803	20,86,362	25,17,095
XVII. Administration of Justice.	...	...	12,67,575	12,93,771
XVIII. Jails and Convict Settlements	...	...	8,34,394	9,15,968
XIX. Police	...	...	10,10,012	9,99,499
XX. Ports and Pilotage ...	237	68	...	...
XXI. Education	...	...	6,65,477	6,53,704
XXII. Medical	...	...	4,55,177	4,56,552
XXIII. Public Health	...	...	69,101	55,004
XXIV. Agriculture	...	...	2,90,210	3,29,586
XXV. Industries	...	...	9,69,645	11,71,434
XXVI. Miscellaneous Departments	4,09,839	3,96,824	4,62,031	5,01,198
XXVII. Currency	10,864	27,175	...	...
XXX. Civil Works	17,939	19,305	8,37,009	9,25,202
XXXIII. Receipts in aid of Superannuation	1,75,078	97,567	6,90,455	3,91,969
XXXIV. Stationery and Printing ...	9,035	4,169	2,67,509	{ 3,05,253 (a) 517
XXXV. Miscellaneous	(—) 1,37,617	(—) 1,04,088	7,12,374	6,87,320
Total, A ...	12,30,78,001	12,18,79,192	16,83,68,735	17,05,36,024
Contribution to the Central Government by Provincial Government	1,65,19,000	...	(—) 1,65,19,000	...
Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments	...	(+) 5,50,986	...	(—) 5,50,986
Total including A ...	13,95,97,001	12,24,30,178	15,18,49,735	16,99,85,038
Appropriation for reduction or avoidance of debt	...	...	33,76,479	40,21,250
Depreciation Funds ...	...	...	1,83,138	2,31,196
Suspense Accounts ...	3,47,189	1,76,584	7,44,212	7,25,741
Famine Insurance Fund.	...	...	8,14,892	7,73,003
Loans and advances by Provincial Government	...	...	33,94,245	36,79,293
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund—Government of India ...	...	...	2,61,76,000	1,60,00,000
Grand total ...	13,99,44,190	12,26,06,762	18,05,38,701	19,54,15,521

(a) Represents revenue in England accounted for by the High Commissioner for India.

B.—Central and Provincial Funds—Charges.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
			1926-27.			1927-28.		
	1926-27.	1927-28.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.	RS.
1. Customs	18,00,658	18,81,309	...	...	...	...	...	...
2. Taxes on Income	7,45,903	7,90,347	...	...	...	...	...	...
3. Salt	25,28,379	23,55,179	...	...	...	...	...	...
5. Land Revenue	...	...	39,04,346	25,169	39,20,515	39,16,274	64,576	39,80,850
6. Excise	...	...	42,72,160	8,635	42,80,795	42,96,246	38,858	43,35,104
7. Stamps	...	...	5,79,116	1,494	5,80,610	6,25,393	264	6,25,657
8. Forest	...	...	44,88,933	1,09,222	45,98,155	42,31,939	1,47,421	43,79,360
8-A. Forest Capital outlay charged to Revenue	...	...	5,47,911	...	5,47,911	5,37,655	...	5,37,655
9. Registration	...	...	25,58,052	...	25,58,052	26,33,593	...	26,33,593
10. State Railways	62,90,711	39,64,119	...	...	...	...	...	...
11. Subsidized Companies	2,077	12,907	...	...	...	...	...	...
12. Miscellaneous Railway expenditure	2,60,519	46,061	...	...	...	...	...	...
14. Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept ...	...	...	43,36,786	...	43,36,786	48,26,839	...	48,26,839
15. Other Revenue expenditure financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	50,48,172	1,540	50,49,712	49,04,167	245	49,04,412
15 (1). Other Revenue expenditure financed from Famine Insurance grants	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
16. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	5,263	...	5,263	2,093	...	2,093
19. Interest on ordinary debt ...	1,00,61,520	1,06,32,631	11,41,489	...	11,41,489	13,44,926	...	13,44,926
20. Interest on other obligations ...	29,97,002	29,52,114	...	...	...	1,962	...	1,962
21. Reduction or Avoidance of debt.	...	...	33,76,479	..	33,76,479	40,21,250	...	40,21,250
22. General administration	38,125	38,125	2,26,02,878	3,95,082	2,29,97,760	2,24,07,209	5,12,482	2,29,19,691
23. Audit	6,45,547	6,65,507	...	...	...	...	...	...
24. Administration of Justice ...	...	...	93,58,487	1,92,401	95,50,888	94,04,401	2,48,586	96,52,987
25. Jails and Convict Settlements ...	...	...	27,92,228	11,368	28,03,596	30,18,180	53,144	30,71,324

B.—*Central and Provincial Funds—Charges*—cont.

Heads of account.	Central.		Provincial.					
			1926-27.			1927-28.		
	1926-27.	1927-28.	India.	England.	Total.	India.	England.	Total.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
26. Police	252	...	1,84,42,140	2,90,770	1,87,32,910	1,88,43,246	3,79,089	1,92,22,335
27. Ports and Pilotage	...	...	33,891	...	33,891	28,590	...	28,590
28. Ecclesiastical	2,30,160	2,30,926	...	...	...	...	...	...
29. Political	2,34,149	2,07,801	...	...	...	...	...	...
30. Scientific Departments	...	...	2,27,898	7,599	2,35,497	2,85,775	25,633	3,11,408
31. Education	...	...	1,97,14,100	1,54,254	1,98,68,354	2,18,69,787	2,28,064	2,20,97,851
32. Medical	...	...	62,99,065	2,83,113	65,82,178	67,31,308	3,63,967	70,95,365
33. Public Health	23,204	23,082	30,41,563	50,386	30,91,949	24,89,937	64,003	25,53,940
34. Agriculture	...	...	31,65,534	82,095	32,47,629	33,75,764	1,04,644	34,80,408
35. Industries	...	...	16,70,003	1,26,193	17,96,196	18,46,052	1,65,637	20,11,689
37. Miscellaneous Departments ...	54,247	65,944	17,33,867	13,659	17,47,526	21,81,375	28,183	22,09,558
38. Currency	2,88,651	2,89,565	...	...	...	...	...	...
41. Civil Works	1,11,556	88,556	1,11,50,640	3,36,692	1,14,87,332	1,40,29,210	3,54,437	1,43,83,647
43. Famine Relief and Insurance ...	...	...	6,61,000	...	6,61,000	6,61,000	...	6,61,000
44. Territorial and Political Pensions	2,73,713	2,53,761	...	...	...	...	...	...
45. Superannuation Allowances and Pensions	7,48,884	4,89,381	50,50,864	10,06,346	60,57,210	47,66,523	10,44,251	58,10,774
45-A. Commuted Value of Pensions financed from ordinary Revenues	...	...	17,70,084	2,56,907	20,26,991	2,10,599 17,44,560	... 3,03,278	2,10,599 20,47,838
46. Stationery and Printing	30,919	26,805	3,47,805	28,449	3,76,254	4,39,257	3,692	4,42,949
47. Miscellaneous	36,137	2,249						
Total expenditure charged to Revenue	2,74,02,383	2,50,16,369	13,83,20,554	33,81,374	14,17,01,928	14,56,75,200	41,30,454	14,98,05,654
52-A. Capital outlay on Forests ...	...	...	88,569	...	88,569	2,21,066	...	2,21,066
53. Construction of State Railways...	4,40 30,201	5,84,39,738	...	...	...	...	...	...
55. Construction of Irrigation, Navigation, Embankment and Drainage Works	...	...	72,65,083	4,04,693	76,69,776	99,34,448	6,70,030	1,06,04,478

58-C. Capital outlay on Industrial Development	...	...	1,39,000	...	1,30,000	3,12,367	...	3,12,367
60. Civil Works	...	...	7,40,604	...	7,40,604	13,28,282	...	13,28,282
60-B. Payments of Commuted Value of pensions...	...	...	12,05,253	...	12,05,253	12,51,313	...	12,51,313
Total Capital Outlay ...	4,40,30,201	5,84,30,738	95,20,118	4,04,693	99,24,811	1,30,50,460	6,70,030	1,37,20,490
Famine Insurance Fund	...	...	15	...	15	...	...	...
Depreciation Funds	...	...	14,173	...	14,173	57,460	...	57,460
Suspense Accounts	3,00,877	1,46,147	8,27,181	...	8,27,181	7,03,502	...	7,03,502
Loans and Advances by Provincial Government	...	...	61,24,108	...	61,24,108	80,37,678	...	80,37,678
Advances from Provincial Loans Fund, Government of India ...	...	...	33,70,470	...	33,70,470	40,21,250	...	40,21,250
Grand total (Disbursements) ...	7,17,42,401	8,36,02,254	10,01,02,018	37,86,067	10,38,78,085	17,21,45,406	48,00,484	17,69,45,890

Cash balance

222. The amount of cash balance in the Government treasuries (excluding that held by the Imperial Bank of India) was Rs. 66 lakhs at the beginning and Rs. 60 lakhs at the close of the year.

(b) CENTRAL REVENUE AND FINANCE

General

223. The receipts on account of Central Revenue in 1927-28 were less than those of the previous year by Rs. 171·67 lakhs. The decrease occurred mainly under "Contribution to the Central Government by Provincial Government" (— Rs. 165·19 lakhs). There was also a fall in the receipts under "State Railways" (—Rs. 41·83 lakhs) which was, however, counterbalanced to a large extent by increases under "Customs" (+Rs. 23·61 lakhs), "Taxes on income" (+Rs. 5·42 lakhs), "Salt" (+Rs. 1·54 lakhs) and "Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments" (+Rs. 5·51 lakhs).

The Central expenditure charged to Revenue in 1927-28 was less than that in 1926-27 by Rs. 23·86 lakhs, the decrease occurring mainly under "State Railways" (—Rs. 23·27 lakhs). There was also short expenditure under "Miscellaneous Railway expenditure" (—Rs. 2·14 lakhs) and "Superannuation allowances and Pensions" (—Rs. 2·60 lakhs), while the head "Interest on Ordinary debt" showed an increase of Rs. 5·71 lakhs.

Net receipts from State railways

224. There was a fall of Rs. 41·83 lakhs in 1927-28 in the net receipts from "State Railways" as compared with the previous year. This is accounted for by the fact that, although the gross receipts of the South Indian Railway, the M. & S.M. Railway and other railways showed an improvement (Rs. 81·95 lakhs), there was a larger increase (Rs. 123·78 lakhs) in the working expenses.

Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments

225. The increase of Rs. 5·51 lakhs represents the special payment in 1927-28 made to the Central Government on account of the value of stamps issued to the Provincial Government prior to 1st April 1923.

226. The increase of Rs. 144·09 lakhs in the capital outlay on State railways, not charged to Revenue, was due to a larger expenditure on lines already under construction, such as the Dindigul-Pollachi, Madura-Bodinayakkanur, Vriddhachalam-Cuddalore, Trichinopoly-Manamadura, Kanivihalli-Swamihalli, Guntūr-Gurzala-Macherla and the Cocanada-Kotepalli Railways. Capital outlay on State railways

227. The opening balance under "Loans and Advances by the Central Government" on the 1st April 1927 was Rs. 141·70 lakhs. No advances were made during the year. The repayments during the year amounted to Rs. 6·10 lakhs, the items being Rs. 2·75 lakhs by the Madras Corporation, Rs. 2·81 lakhs by the Madras Port Trust and Rs. ·54 lakh by the Tanjore District Board Railway. The closing balance at the end of the year was Rs. 135·60 lakhs. Loans and advances by the Central Government

(c) REVENUE AND FINANCE OTHER THAN CENTRAL

228. The provincial accounts opened with a balance of Rs. 310·09 lakhs on 1st April 1927 and closed with a balance of Rs. 494·78 lakhs on 31st March 1928. Provincial balance

229. The receipts in 1927–28 on account of the Provincial Government, after deducting the provincial contribution to the Central Government, were more than those of the previous year by Rs. 181·35 lakhs. The improvement was due chiefly to the fact that, while in 1926–27, a provincial contribution of Rs. 165·19 lakhs was paid to the Central Government, it was remitted in 1927–28. There were also increased receipts chiefly under "Excise" (+ Rs. 23·84 lakhs) and "Interest" (+ Rs. 4·31 lakhs). On the other hand, there was a fall in the receipts under the heads "Irrigation" (−Rs. 3·21 lakhs), "Receipts in aid of Superannuation" (−Rs. 2·98 lakhs) and "Miscellaneous adjustments between the Central and Provincial Governments" (−Rs. 5·51 lakhs). Provincial revenues:

The Provincial expenditure charged to Revenue in 1927–28 exceeded that in 1926–27 by Rs. 81·04 lakhs. The bulk of the increase occurred under "Education" (+Rs. 22·29 lakhs) and "Civil

REVENUE AND FINANCE

Works" + Rs. 28·96 lakhs). Increases occurred also under "Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept" (+ Rs. 4·90 lakhs), "Interest on ordinary debt" (+ Rs. 2·03 lakhs), "Reduction or avoidance of debt" (+ Rs. 6·45 lakhs), Police (+ Rs. 4·89 lakhs), "Medical" (+ Rs. 5·13 lakhs), and "Miscellaneous departments" (+ Rs. 4·62 lakhs). On the other hand, there was a decrease in the expenditure under "Public Health" (− Rs. 5·38 lakhs).

Land revenue

230. The receipts under "Land Revenue" were practically the same as in the previous year.

Taxes on income

231. Under rule 15 of the Devolution Rules, the provincial share of the income-tax receipts adjusted in 1927–28 amounted to Rs. 5·94 lakhs as against Rs. 4·64 lakhs in 1926–27.

Excise

232. The revenue from "Excise" rose from Rs. 510·53 lakhs in 1926–27 to Rs. 534·37 lakhs in 1927–28. The increase of Rs. 23·84 lakhs was mainly due to the enhancement in the rates of tree tax in 14 districts with effect from the 1st October 1927, to better rentals realized from the auctions of toddy, country spirits and beer shops and foreign liquor taverns, and to the higher duty on and the increased consumption of hemp drugs.

(For further information about excise revenue see under "Opium, Excise and Stamps.")

Stamps

233. There was a decrease of Rs. 2·19 lakhs in the receipts for 1927–28, as compared with the previous year, being the net result of a fall of Rs. 3·04 lakhs under "Judicial stamps" and a small increase of Rs. ·85 lakh under "Non-judicial stamps." The former is attributed to the decrease in litigation, while the latter is ascribed mainly to the increase in monetary transactions and to the abnormal purchase of hundi stamped papers by the Imperial Bank of India.

The receipts under "Non-judicial" stamps would have been greater but for the loss consequent on the abolition of the stamp duty on cheques from 1st July 1927.

Forest

234. There was a decline of Rs. 2·80 lakhs in the revenue under "Forests" as compared with the previous year, owing to smaller receipts realized

from timber and other produce removed from forests by Government agency and by consumers or purchasers.

Irrigation

235. The fall of Rs. 3·21 lakhs under "Irrigation" was caused by an increase in working expenses, which are shown as deduction from receipts.

Interest

236. The increased receipts of Rs. 4·31 lakhs accrued chiefly from advances to cultivators and from provincial balances deposited with the Government of India with effect from the 1st May 1927.

Receipts in aid of superannuation

237. The decrease of Rs. 2·98 lakhs under this head was due to the decision that, with effect from 1927-28, recoveries from other Governments on account of the commuted value of pensions should be transferred at the end of the year to the Capital head "Payment of commuted value of pensions" as a deduction from charges.

Miscellaneous adjustments between Provincial and Central Governments

238. A sum of Rs. 5·51 lakhs, representing the value of stamps issued to this Government by the Government of India, prior to 1st April 1923, was credited to Central during 1927-28. There was no similar adjustment in the previous year.

Canal revenue

239. The total receipts amounted to Rs. 3·99 lakhs, an increase of Rs. ·41 lakh over the previous year.

Provincial expenditure: Interest on works for which capital accounts are kept and interest on ordinary debt

240. The total increase of Rs. 6·93 lakhs under these heads was chiefly on account of the payment of interest during 1927-28 on the large advance taken from the Provincial Loans Fund in 1926-27 for expenditure on the Cauvery-Mettur project.

Police

241. The increase of Rs. 4·89 lakhs under "Police" occurred mainly under "District Police —Travelling allowances" and "Supplies and Services," "Special Police" and "Works."

Education

242. The bulk of the increased expenditure (Rs. 22·29 lakhs) was on "Primary Education" and there was also an increase under "Special Education." The increase under "Primary Education" was due chiefly to the payment of larger grants to local bodies and district educational councils on account of an increase in the number of local bodies levying the education cess, the opening of new schools, the development of existing schools through the agency of local bodies, and the raising of the rates of teaching grants to aided elementary schools. The increased expenditure under "Special Education" was due to the expansion of training facilities for teachers in boys' and girls' schools and grants to non-Government schools for buildings and equipment.

Medical

243. The increased expenditure of Rs. 5·13 lakhs in 1927-28 was due mainly to larger expenditure on dietary charges on account of the revised scale of diets introduced in the Presidency hospitals about the end of 1926-27, on the supply of quinine to hospitals, and for schemes of new expenditure such as the standardization of bedding and clothing in the Presidency and mufassal hospitals and building grants to local and private bodies.

Public health

244. The head "Public Health" showed a decrease of Rs. 5·38 lakhs as compared with the year 1926-27. This was due chiefly to the fact that, while a grant of Rs. 4 lakhs was disbursed to the Madras Corporation in 1926-27 for its water-supply and drainage scheme, no grant was disbursed during 1927-28.

Miscellaneous departments

245. The increase of Rs. 4·62 lakhs was mostly on account of the extension of the operations of the Labour department including larger expenditure on the construction of wells, pathways and opening of additional schools for the depressed classes.

Civil works

246. The increase of Rs. 28·96 lakhs as compared with the previous year, was necessitated by the commencement of a large number of new works, and by the payment of larger grants to local bodies and village panchayats for roads and bridges.

247. The increase of Rs. 29·35 lakhs, over the previous year's expenditure, represents mainly the larger outlay in connexion with the Cauvery-Mettur project.

Construction of irrigation, etc., works

248. Under Schedule IV of the Devolution Rules (as it stood in 1927-28), the Provincial Government is required to make an annual provision in the budget estimate for the relief of and insurance against famine. The amount is to be expended only for the relief of famine, the construction of protective irrigation works or other works for the prevention of famine, or for the grant of loans to cultivators. Any portion of the amount which is not required for these purposes is utilized for building up a famine insurance fund. The balance at the credit of the fund is regarded as invested with the Government of India, who pay interest on it; and it will be available, when necessary, for expenditure on any of the objects mentioned above.

Famine relief and insurance

The opening balance at the credit of the fund on 1st April 1927 was Rs. 29·57 lakhs. In the year under review, an expenditure of Rs. ·06 lakh was incurred on famine relief and the balance (Rs. 6·61 — ·06 = Rs. 6·55 lakhs) was transferred to the Famine Insurance Fund. The amount credited to the fund during the year, on account of interest on the amount at the credit of the fund, recoveries of famine expenditure and repayments of the principal and interest on loans granted to agriculturists, was Rs. 1·18 lakhs. The closing balance at the end of the year thus amounted to Rs. 37·30 lakhs.

Loans and advances by the Provincial Government

249. The Provincial Advance and Loan Account (including loans to local boards for railway construction) opened with a balance of Rs. 382·94 lakhs and closed with a balance of Rs. 432·25 lakhs. Advances to cultivators, sanctioned in 1927-28, amounted to Rs. 29·79 lakhs, as against Rs. 26·83 lakhs in the previous year. A loan of Rs. ·38 lakh was also sanctioned under the State Aid to Industries Act. Loans were also given to the Madras Corporation (Rs. 8 lakhs) and the Cochin Port Conservancy Board (Rs. 9·20 lakhs).

The loans disbursed to mufassal municipalities and local boards for the construction of bridges, drainage works, markets, hospitals and similar works amounted to Rs. 28·58 lakhs. Advances for the purchase of house-sites for Ādi-Drāvidas amounted to Rs. 1·07 lakhs (this sum includes Rs. ·48 lakh advanced to co-operative societies for this purpose). Loans were also sanctioned to co-operative building societies (Rs. 4·52 lakhs) and to Kallar co-operative societies (Rs. 2 lakhs). Loans were also disbursed to co-operative sale Societies (Rs. ·02 lakh), Chenchus (Rs. ·01 lakh), Salvation Army (Rs. ·02 lakh), land mortgage banks (Rs. ·41 lakh), local bodies to cover deficits (Rs. ·12 lakh), co-operative irrigation societies (Rs. ·03 lakh), Todas' co-operative societies (Rs. ·08 lakh), co-operative societies for the purchase of cattle, seeds, etc. (Rs. ·03 lakh) and the American Baptist Mission (Rs. ·10 lakh). An advance of Rs. 2 lakhs was also made to the Port Conservancy Board, Cochin, but the amount was repaid before the close of the year.

Loans between Central and Provincial Governments

250. The advances obtained by the Provincial Government from the Provincial Loans Fund under Rule 25 of the Devolution Rules, to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure, amounted to Rs. 160 lakhs carrying interest at five per cent per annum, while the sums repaid to the Provincial Loans Fund amounted to Rs 40·21 lakhs, made up of Rs. 9·50 lakhs on account of the annual instalment in repayment of the outstanding balance of the Provincial Advance and Loan Account and Rs. 30·71 lakhs in repayment of the outstanding balances of the advances taken during the years 1921-22 to 1926-27 to meet capital and other miscellaneous expenditure.

Local funds

251. The following table summarises the transactions in funds raised from special sources and devoted to special objects and not to general purposes of administration (Central and Provincial).

Statement showing the transactions of Local Funds for the year 1927–28

Name of fund.	Opening balance on 1st April 1927.	Receipts.	Charges.	Closing balance on 31st March 1928 (cash).	Government securities.
	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.	RS. A. P.
Cantonment Funds...	35,869 14 2	1,33,937 7 10	1,37,004 11 1	32,802 10 11	...
Secunderabad Civil Hospital Fund ...	27,280 6 10	1,86,441 0 4	1,68,974 5 1	41,747 2 1	...
Secunderabad Local Abkari, etc., Fund.	3,86,401 13 11	11,53,737 11 2	12,09,256 9 10	3,30,882 15 3	...
Hyderabad Residency Bazaar Fund ...	1,43,853 12 2	2,00,217 7 8	3,27,546 11 10	21,524 8 0	...
Madras Port Fund ...	5,639 0 7	2,81,447 8 3	2,36,586 8 3	50,500 0 7	24,200 0 0
Minor Ports Fund ...	2,42,499 12 0	7,84,048 14 6	9,34,320 7 10	1,32,228 2 8	25,07,310 0 0
Cochin Port Fund ...	53,784 7 8	2,95,190 9 2	2,52,250 14 1	96,724 2 9	3,62,390 0 0
Tuticorin Port Fund.	23,510 11 5	1,46,426 5 3	1,33,162 6 5	31,774 10 3	1,06,000 0 0
Tuticorin Port Trust Fund	8,15,705 13 1	5,48,893 3 4	10,27,740 4 1	3,36,863 12 4	3,12,000 0 0
Tuticorin Port Trust Provident Fund ...	869 2 0	662 8 0	942 3 6	589 6 6	675 0
Vizagapatam Port Fund	9,853 4 1	27,752 10 0	23,977 15 0	8,632 15 1	38,200 0
Minor Pilotage Fund	4,323 12 3	15,043 2 4	14,990 10 1	4,375 4 6	1,83,090 0
Landing and Shipping Dues Fund ...	5,90,391 7 11	22,32,346 3 10	24,27,792 9 1	3,94,945 2 8	13,82,190 0
Madras Coast Lights Fund	1,80,459 5 1	3,38,117 11 2	3,11,449 4 10	2,07,127 11 5	8,13,300 0 0
Lightkeepers' Recreation and Benefit Fund ...	2,033 10 2	3,610 3 10	4,045 5 7	1,599 8 5	11,930 0 0
Madras University Fee Fund	1,73,951 2 6	8,36,180 12 1	7,62,272 2 6	2,47,859 12 1	...
Andhra University Fee Fund	...	41,200 1 0	36,693 5 0	4,567 12 0	...
Kumbakonam College Hostel Fund	4,281 10 6	3,748 4 8	8,029 15 2	...	...
Mrs. A. V. Narasinga Rao's College Fund.	9,668 13 3	12,305 14 2	21,974 11 5	...	...
Bhadrachalam-Nugur Special Fund	12,399 8 10	13,045 14 2	8,068 6 3	16,777 0 9	...
Irrigation Cess Fund	43,776 8 11	57,796 4 1	62,745 2 8	43,827 10 4	...

252. For information about local funds constituted under Act V of 1884 see supra Chapter III—Local Boards Administration.

CUSTOMS (1927–28)

253. The total revenue receipts of the Presidency increased from Rs. 412·05 lakhs to Rs. 435·95 lakhs, or by about 6 per cent. The total disbursements throughout the Presidency increased from Rs. 22,47,349 to Rs. 23,55,972. Finance

The number of cases dealt with under the Sea Customs Act (including those under the Merchandise Marks Act), during the year, was 1,618 as against 1,578 in the previous year. Offences

SALT.

Manufacture

254. The season of 1927 was favourable for salt manufacture. Except at the Polavaram factory, where manufacture was retarded by unexpected floods from the Agency hills, in the beginning of March 1927, and at the Manambadi factory, where it was frequently interrupted by rain, the output in all the factories in the Presidency was greater than that in the previous year. In November 1927, a severe cyclone passed over the factories situated in the districts of Kistna, Guntūr and Nellore. As manufacture had closed long before November in the factories of the Northern division, the cyclone did not affect the output, but it caused considerable damage to salt heaps and buildings especially in the factories of the Krishnapatnam circle.

The quantity of salt manufactured in the year was nearly 147¾ lakhs of maunds, or 16¾ lakhs of maunds more than the quantity produced in the previous year. Of this quantity, 21½ lakhs of maunds belonged to Government and the balance to the licensees. The stock on hand at the beginning of the year, was 58¼ lakhs of maunds and the quantity imported during the year, mainly from Bombay, was 15½ lakhs of maunds. The total stock of salt available for consumption was thus 221½ lakhs of maunds. The quantity issued during the year amounted to nearly 139½ lakhs of maunds as against 136 lakhs of maunds in 1926-27. The increase in issues was mainly due to larger exports and to a low selling price.

Prices

The wholesale prices of excise salt fell on the average from 5 annas per maund in 1926-27 to 3 annas 5 pies in 1927-28. There was a similar decrease in the case of Government salt, the average price being 4 annas 10 pies, as against 6 annas 1 pie in the previous year. The retail prices at headquarter stations varied on the average from 1 anna 1·2 pies to 2 annas 1·5 pies a Madras measure.

Issues

The quantity of salt imported by sea, mainly from Bombay, fell from 1,389,509 maunds to 1,185,049 maunds. The quantity imported by

rail from Bombay and Goa also fell from 385,506 maunds to 354,205 maunds. The issues of locally manufactured and imported salt, for ordinary consumption in the areas usually supplied, increased from 12,449,520 maunds to 12,831,724 maunds. The quantity of salt issued for export by sea to Ceylon fell from 448,114 maunds to 375,772 maunds. There was also a decrease in the issue of salt to the Travancore Darbar; the quantity being 387,296 maunds as against 414,286 maunds in the previous year. The quantity of salt issued to the French Government was 61,910 maunds; and the quantity issued to the Fisheries department was 221,584 maunds, as against 141,104 maunds in the previous year.

Finance

The total receipts on account of salt revenue were Rs. 144·64 lakhs. There was an increase in the revenue compared with the revenue realized in 1926-27, due to the increased sales in the year. The charges in 1927-28 were less than those of the previous year under (1) "purchase of salt manufacturers' share" and (2) "conveying and storing salt," while the charges under "works—roads" were greator. The decrease in expenditure under items (1) and (2) was due to the restriction of manufacture in monopoly factories owing to the existence of large monopoly stocks and the low excise prices which prevailed in the year. The increased expenditure under "works—roads" was due to final adjustment of charges on account of the extension of the railway siding in the Tuticorin factories.

INCOME-TAX (1927-28)

Administrative changes

255. During the year 1927-28, the East Gōdāvari circle was split up into two circles with headquarters at Cocanada and Rajahmundry. The Kurnool district was constituted a separate circle under an income-tax officer with headquarters at Kurnool and a new circle was formed with effect from 1st April 1927 in the Tanjore district with headquarters at Kumbakōnam.

Trade conditions

In Madras and the adjoining districts, the conditions of trade in 1926-27 were slightly better than in 1925-26, though there was no marked improvement. While there was an increase in the volume of foreign import trade, as compared with the previous year, especially in cotton manufactures, the increase was more than counterbalanced by a heavy fall in the export trade of the staple products of the Presidency, especially raw cotton and groundnut. The dislocation of continental exchanges seems to have had an adverse effect on trade in groundnut. Export trade in general was also adversely affected by this as well as by the failure of the monsoon and the consequent crippling of the resources of the agricultural population, by competition with the cheap American cotton of which there was an abnormal production during the year, and by the difficulty, due to the coal strike in England, of securing easy freights. Exchange was however steady in India and this was reflected in more stable prices ; the year was therefore generally good for internal trade and business. There was a slight recovery in the piece-goods business, but the effects of the slump which followed the war were still felt in connexion with some of the assessments of 1927-28, as the persons who had failed in business filed insolvency petitions and large sums became irrecoverable. Trade in hides and skins showed a slight improvement in some places and the reverse in others. Conditions were not on the whole favourable for the making of large profits. The groundnut crop fell short of the average production in the southern districts, while the northern districts took more to the cultivation of this crop. The cotton crop did not reach the normal level of yield. The price of cotton was unsteady and fluctuated widely during the year. Dealers in cotton, therefore, fared badly and their business showed a gradual decline, particularly in the northern districts. The cotton mills at Coimbatore however fared well during the year. There was a paucity of demand from the continent for the textile fabric known as "Madras handkerchiefs" made in hand looms around Madras.

This is attributed to overproduction of inferior qualities of this commodity and to the setting up of this industry in Switzerland. The demand for lunghis from Singapore also fell. The introduction of artificial silk has affected trade in silk cloths to a very large extent.

Agricultural conditions were normal in the northern districts, but not so good in the southern, so that the money-lending class found some difficulty in recovering their loans. The improvement in rubber in the previous year, proved shortlived and there was a steady decline since 1926–27. The price of rubber is still falling, its price at present being said to be so low that it hardly covers the cost of production. There was a slump in the money market in the Federated Malay States and brisker demand in Burma so that there was an appreciable flow of money from the Federated Malay States into British India, though most of it seems to have been sent back at the end of the year. The coffee crop was poor in South Kanara and there was little demand for coir and copra in Malabar. The money-lending operations of the Nattukottai Chettis showed a decline in some parts of the Presidency, where indigenous banks, nidhis and co-operative credit societies were able to lend money at far lower rates of interest.

Financial results

The number of assessees rose from 49,024 in 1926–27 to 51,802 during the year under review. The increase was, as in the last year, mainly due to the discovery of new assessees. The demand under income-tax was Rs. 133·22 lakhs in 1927–28, as against Rs. 127·34 lakhs in 1926–27. The demand under supertax was Rs. 21·15 lakhs, as against Rs. 19·58 lakhs in the previous year. The net collections during the year were Rs. 120·56 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. 19·60 lakhs under supertax. The arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 2·13 lakhs under income-tax and Rs. 1·34 lakhs under supertax, as against Rs. 2·43 lakhs and Rs. ·58 lakh respectively in the previous year. The number of new cases discovered and assessed during the year was 6,892 and the number struck off was 3,805.

Refunds

The refunds under income-tax, in 1927–28, amounted to Rs. 13·10 lakhs as against Rs. 14·57 lakhs in 1926–27. The refunds under supertax amounted to Rs. ·41 lakh.

Expenditure

Expenditure in 1927–28 was Rs. 7,87,983 as against Rs. 7,35,108 in 1926-27. The share of the local Government in the income-tax receipts in 1927–28, under Devolution Rule 15, was fixed at Rs. 6·08 lakhs as against Rs. 4·5 lakhs in the previous year.

MUNICIPAL REVENUES

256. See supra chapter III—Protection—Municipal Administration (Mufassal) and Municipal Administration (City of Madras).

OPIUM, EXCISE AND STAMPS

[*Administration Report of the Madras Excise Department for the year 1927–28*; *Administration Report on Stamps for the year 1927–28*]

257. During the year under review, there was a considerable decrease in the consumption of country spirits, a substantial increase in the consumption of foreign beer and an increase in the consumption of ganja. The number of shops for the retail sale of country spirits fell slightly and there was a decrease in the number of opium shops sold in the year under review as compared with previous years. The rates of tree tax were enhanced in fourteen districts. There was a substantial increase in the revenue derived from country spirits.

Opium

258. The issue price of opium continued to be Rs. 75 per seer. The consumption of opium during the year amounted to 34,639 seers as compared with 34,886 seers in the previous year. Five hundred and sixty shops were sold by auction during the year as against 582 shops in the previous year. Several shops were closed in the districts of Ganjām, East Gōdāvari and West Gōdāvari. The

revenue derived from opium amounted to Rs. 41·86 lakhs of which Rs. 10·90 lakhs represented rentals.

The number of convictions under the Opium Act decreased from 197 to 186. The value of the confiscated articles was however Rs. 14,238 as compared with Rs. 6,826 in the previous year. A special feature of the year was a marked increase in the activities of smugglers to Ceylon. Sixteen such persons were arrested in various parts of the Presidency. Offences

259. There was no change in the areas for the contract supply of arrack or in the rates of issue price allowed to distillers, except for a reduction by one anna per gallon of 35° u.p. in the rate allowed to the Coimbatore distiller. The rate of duty on arrack, issued to certain shops in the low duty area of frontier tracts of the South Arcot district, was raised to Rs. 5-7-9 per gallon of 38° u.p. There was no change in the issue strengths of liquor. The limit of private possession of arrack without a licence was reduced from 6 to 4 drams in the municipalities of Kistna, Guntūr, Nellore and South Kanara districts, from 4 to 2 drams in areas where the experiments of closing arrack shops in toddy drinking areas was in force and from 12 to 8 drams in two taluks. The consumption of country spirits was 1,438,524 proof gallons as against 1,447,670 proof gallons in the previous year. The consumption was the lowest since 1907-08 except 1925-26. The number of cases relating to illicit distillation and kindred offences reported during the year was 2,632 as against 2,208 in the previous year. The experiment of closing all arrack shops in two taluks of Tanjore district and one taluk in each of the districts of Tinnevelly, Rāmnād and Salem was continued during the year. Prohibition experiments in the Nilgiris were also continued. **Excise** Country spirits

The number of shops for the retail vend of country spirits in the areas under the contract distillery system fell from 5,784 to 5,738. The total revenue derived from country spirits rose from Rs. 205·79 lakhs to Rs. 206·94 lakhs, the difference being the result of an increase in rentals and a decrease in duty. Revenue

REV-ENUE AND FINANCE

Agency tracts

No alterations were made in the system of supply in the Agency tracts. The consumption of mohwa arrack in all the areas under the central distillery system amounted to 55,309 gallons of 60° u.p. Under the outstill system, 90 combined shops and stills in the Vizagapatam Agency were sold for Rs. 2,85,233.

Toddy

260. The rates of tree-tax were enhanced by 20 per cent in two districts and by 25 per cent in twelve districts with effect from 1st October 1927. During the first ten months of the lease 1927–28, 1,054,715 coconuts, 676,252 palmyras, 886,928 dates and 5,919 sagos were licensed for tapping. Expressed in terms of coconuts, the number for these ten months works out at 2,108,673 as against 2,149,195 in the corresponding period of the previous lease. 10,375 shops were sold for the lease 1927–28 as compared with 10,355 for the lease 1926–27.

Revenue

The total revenue derived during the official year was Rs. 2,41,84,791 as compared with Rs. 2,30,97,753 in the previous year.

Agency tracts

The tree-tax system continued in the same areas in the Agency tracts as in the previous year. Sixty-four licences for the tapping of sweet toddy were issued in the Polavaram division, the total number of trees tapped being 2,560.

Offences

The number of cases of illicit manufacture of toddy showed a further increase from 7,508 to 7,981. The illicit manufacture and sale of sonti soru in Madras continued on an extensive scale.

Foreign liquor

261. The rates of duty on locally made foreign liquor and on imported spirits remained unaltered during the year. There was a substantial increase in the consumption of beer, due partly to a short supply of toddy in some districts and partly to the development of a taste for the cheap brands of imported beer. The consumption of locally made foreign liquor was 24,287 gallons against 26,518 gallons in the previous year.

Spirituous medicinal preparations

The pharmaceutical laboratory, opened at Madras by Messrs. Spencer & Co. for the manufacture of spirituous medicinal preparations, continued to work during the year. Imports of spirituous medicinal preparations from Bangalore and Bengal showed an increase.

The number of licences for the sale of foreign liquor for "on" consumption was 28 as compared with 29 in the previous year. Twenty-six shops for the sale of beer for consumption on the premises were sold by auction and 175 "off" retail licences were also issued. The total revenue derived from foreign liquor was Rs. 13,25,970 as against Rs. 11,66,227 in the previous year. Revenue

262. Twenty-five licences were issued for the cultivation of ganja in Guntūr district and 63 licences in North Arcot district. The outturn amounted to 852 maunds of ganja and 96 maunds of bhang at Santaravur and 424 maunds of ganja and 60 maunds of bhang at Santavasal. The special staff, entrusted with the work of investigation into the causes of deterioration of ganja and of devising means to prevent such deterioration, continued its investigations during the year. The rate of duty on ganja was raised by Rs. 2-8-0 per seer, while that on bhang remained the same as in the previous year. The consumption of licit ganja during the year showed an increase owing to the good quality of ganja sold. The total revenue from hemp drugs amounted to Rs. 16·94 lakhs as against Rs. 14·56 lakhs in 1926-27. There were 74 cases of illicit cultivation of the hemp plant. Intoxicating drugs Ganja and bhang

Two hundred licences for the possession and sale of cocaine and its preparations were issued during the year. The retail sale amounted to 4 lb., 10 oz., 195½ grains as against 1 lb., 15 oz., 139 grains in the previous year. Cocaine

263. The receipts from the sale of judicial stamps, during the official year 1927-28, amounted to Rs. 1,47,13,324. There was a decrease of over 3 lakhs as compared with the receipts of the preceding year. This decrease is attributed to a fall in the volume of litigation and to the increased popularity of the panchayat courts. Stamps

Receipts on account of the sale of non-judicial stamps during the official year 1927-28 amounted to Rs. 1,03,27,811. The increase of over one lakh over the receipts of the previous year is attributed to increased transactions in land and house properties, improvement of trade and the springing up of new firms in the Presidency.

CHAPTER VI

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

DETAILS OF CENSUS

264. *Vide* pages 209 to 219 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS (1927)

[*The Sixty-fourth Annual report of the Director of Public Health, Madras, for 1927; Report on the working of the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act of 1886 during the year 1927-28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics*]

Population

265. Exclusive of the Europeans and Anglo-Indians, who numbered 34,328, the total population of the Presidency was 42,759,827 (inclusive of the hill tribes of Ganjām and Vizagapatam districts, the inhabitants of the Laccadive Islands, and the inhabitants of the Banganapalle and Pudukkōttai States). Estimated according to the previous intercensal increase, the population for 1927 now totals 43,787,400; and that, estimated according to natural increases amounts to 45,600,316.

Registration of vital statistics

266. Irregularities in vital statistics records are largely responsible for the difference between the two figures. Although marked improvement in the registration and compilation of vital statistics has been effected, certain features still tend to vitiate the accuracy of these important records to some extent. During 1927, over 86,000 unregistered births were detected. During the last six years, no less than 416,055 additional entries have

been made in the birth registers of the Presidency as a result of the activities of the district health staff. Village headmen are still not regular in sending in their monthly reports on due dates.

Births

267. The total number of births registered during the year under report was 1,495,747 as against 1,480,293 in 1926. Calculated on the census population of 1921, these figures yield birth-rates of 36·5 per mille for 1927 and 36·1 for 1926. The Presidency average rate, however, is 42·5. The health staff continued to detect large numbers of unregistered births. In rural towns, the registered birth-rate was 36·7 per mille as compared with 35·4 in the previous year.

In municipalities, where registrations are compulsory, the average registered birth-rate was 39·4 as compared with 38·0 in the previous year and 37·0 for the quinquennial average.

Deaths

268. The total number of deaths registered during the year was 997,742 as compared with 1,048,529 in 1926. These figures represent death-rates of 24·3 per mille in 1927 as compared with 25·6 per mille in 1926 and the quinquennial average of 23·5. The death-rate of infants was 175·4 per mille as against 189·5 in 1926.

The number of deaths registered during the year in the 215 rural towns in the Presidency was 50,994 as against 52,379 in 1926, representing death-rates of 24·0 and 24·6 per mille respectively. The average death-rate in 81 municipalities was 30·6 per mille as compared with 32·6 in 1926. During the year under report, infantile deaths registered in municipalities totalled 22,560 as against 22,227 in 1926. The infant mortality rate in Madras City showed a perceptible decline.

Chief diseases

Cholera

269. The number of deaths from cholera registered during 1927 was 35,334 as against 24,407 in 1926. These figures represent death-rates of 0·9 and 0·6 per mille respectively as compared with the quinquennial average of 0·7. Tanjore, Nellore, Bellary, South Arcot, Kistna and Trichinopoly were the districts that suffered most heavily from cholera. The districts of Guntūr, Rāmnād, Tinnevelly, Coimbatore, West Gōdāvari, Kurnool and

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

Madras also recorded marked increases in cholera incidence. Every district was infected during the year. Thirteen districts recorded cholera death-rates higher than the quinquennial average, and, of these, eleven had severe epidemics with rates of more than one per mille. The districts of South Kanara and East Gōdāvari recorded the lowest mortality. Twenty-two municipalities were entirely free from cholera during 1927 and 26 other municipal towns had less than ten cases each. Fifty-nine infected municipalities registered a total of 3,446 deaths as against 2,222 in 1926. Thirty-five towns recorded rates less than one per mille, while 24 recorded rates exceeding that figure. The highest death-rates were registered in the towns of Adōni, Nellore, Nandyāl, Palamcottah, and Tinnevelly. One hundred and forty-three rural towns registered 2,798 deaths from cholera as against 95 towns with 2,014 deaths in 1926.

The proposal to issue anti-cholera vaccine free to all local bodies and municipalities in the Presidency was accepted, with the result that, during the severe epidemic of July and August 1927, in Madras City alone, nearly 100,000 persons were inoculated, while 257,510 others were similarly protected in districts and municipalities The King Institute was able to supply the numerous demands upon it for anti-cholera vaccine. Steps have now been taken to maintain a permanent stock of 500,000 doses of the vaccine to meet emergencies.

Smallpox

During the year under report, 7,781 deaths from smallpox were registered as against 10,957 in 1926. These figures represent rates of 0·2 and 0·3, respectively, the quinquennial average being 0·5 per mille. Although no district was entirely free from smallpox for the last three years, it is gratifying to note that, in recent years, there has been a steady decline in the mortality from this disease. Thirty-three of the 81 municipalities reported entire freedom from infection and, of the remaining 48 towns, 34 recorded fewer than ten cases each. Seventy-two rural towns registered 377 deaths from smallpox as against 255 deaths in 76

towns in 1926. The total number of towns and villages where smallpox occurred was 2,122 as against 2,626 in 1926.

The total number of deaths from plague during the year under report was 2,457 as compared with 2,143 in 1926. These figures represent death-rates of 0·1 as compared with the quinquennial average of 0·2 per mille. The districts of Ganjām, Gōdāvari East, Nellore and Chingleput have been free from plague for the past five years. Chittoor and Guntūr recorded only one case each in 1927. Of the six districts which were infected, Bellary and Madura recorded more than 85 per cent of the total mortality. The decrease in incidence which occurred during 1926 continued during the first six months of 1927 ; but, owing to the outbreak of a severe epidemic in Bellary during August, the mortality recorded in the third quarter of the year was considerably higher than during that part of the three previous years. Only six municipal towns were infected, 181 deaths being registered as against 162 deaths in 12 towns during 1926. Seven rural towns registered 440 deaths during the year as against 12 towns with 643 deaths in 1926. Deaths from plague were reported from 270 towns and villages as against 189 in 1926. Plague

It is proposed to commence a rat-flea survey of the six or seven recognized plague foci in the Presidency.

During the year under review, malaria was prevalent in practically every district in the Presidency. The appointment of a special officer with the requisite staff to investigate malarial conditions in selected areas was sanctioned. During the year under review, malarial surveys of the municipal towns of Bellary, Vizagapatam, Hospet and Coonoor and its environments and of the union town of Vriddhachalam were completed. Malaria

The total number of deaths registered under respiratory diseases was 81,277 as compared with 85,602 in 1926, these figures giving rates of 2·0 and 2·1 per mille respectively. Respiratory diseases

As in the past years, investigation was carried on during the year under review against hookworm infection. The staff was strengthened by Hookworm

the addition of a first-class health officer. Attention was devoted to educational work, treatment, and examination and prevention of soil pollution.

Child births

270. Seven thousand nine hundred and two deaths were registered as due to causes associated with child-birth, as compared with 7,142 in 1926. The marked increase in the registered totals in recent years is only apparent, being mainly due to improved registration following the activities of the Public Health staff.

The number of maternity-relief and child-welfare centres at work throughout the Presidency numbered 55 in 1927 as compared with 53 in 1926. Most of these were founded as a result of the activities of the Madras Presidency Maternity and Child Welfare Association, which continued to give grants in aid to approved centres.

Europeans and European British subjects

271. Under the Births, Deaths and Marriages Registration Act, 1886, which provides for the registration of Europeans and European British subjects and also of other classes such as Jews and Indian Christians, 62 births and 36 deaths were registered during the year under review, as compared with 79 births and 45 deaths in the previous year. These figures include 12 births and 2 deaths in Native States. One hundred and twenty-two births and 57 deaths of Europeans and European British subjects were registered under the Madras City Municipal Act, the District Municipalities Act, and the Cantonment Code.

EMIGRATION AND IMMIGRATION (1927)

[*Report on the working of the Indian Emigration Act, 1922, for the year 1927; Statistical Abstract for British India—Emigration*]

General

272. The emigration of unskilled labour from this Presidency is confined by the Indian Emigration Act to Malaya and Ceylon.

The ports of emigration to Malaya are Madras and Negapatam. 70,624 persons sailed from Madras during the year under review as against 72,742 in the previous year, and 62,383 sailed from Negapatam as against 86,319 in the previous year.

Of these, 8,082 from Madras and 7,033 from Negapatam were non-emigrants. Unfavourable seasonal conditions in parts of the recruiting areas continued to maintain the high level of the flow of labour to the colony during the year.

Emigrants for Ceylon leave by the port of Dhanushkodi. 102,808 persons emigrated from Dhanushkodi to Ceylon during the year under review as compared with 56,722 in the previous year. The increase was due to the continued bad seasonal conditions. The year under review is a record year for the largest number of emigrants to Ceylon.

Health

The health of the emigrants was good, except for an outbreak of cholera at Negapatam.

Returning emigrants

Separate figures are not available for emigrants returning from Malaya as they pay their own passages and travel as ordinary passengers. The bulk of the assisted return emigrants were afflicted with sickness. The total number of emigrants who returned from Ceylon during the year was 89,772, of whom 2,261 were assisted as against 2,352 in the last year. The chief reason for return from Ceylon was the unsuitability of climate. Under the new scheme of assisted emigration, agreed to by the Government of India and the Government of the Union of South Africa, 2,387 Indians returned from South Africa against 1,454 in the previous year. The increase was due to the increased rates of bonus given to them by the Union Government and the greater facilities offered for their settlement in India. Four hundred and eighty-one persons returned from Fiji, 140 from Trinidad, 109 from Mauritius, 105 from Jamaica and 100 from British Guiana. The returned emigrants from Fiji brought back savings amounting nearly to Rs. 2 lakhs.

MEDICAL RELIEF (1927)

[*Annual Report on the working of the Civil Hospitals and Dispensaries in the Madras Presidency for the year 1927; Report on the working of Mental Hospitals for the year 1927; Annual Reports of the Medical College, Madras, and the Medical College, Vizagapatam, for the year 1927-28; Annual Report on the working of the Medical Schools for the year 1927-28; Annual Report of the Director of the Pasteur Institute, Coonoor, for the year ending 28th February 1928; Report of the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, Guindy, for 1927-28; Statistical Abstract for British India--Vital Statistics—Hospitals*]

Medical institutions

273. At the end of the year 1927, there were 1,038 medical institutions of all classes, as compared with 1,006 in the previous year. Of these institutions, 989 were general, while 49 were institutions exclusively for children and women. The following table shows the different classes of institutions at work at the close of the year as compared with the previous year:—

	1926.	1927.
1. State-public institutions	63	69
2. Local Fund institutions	773	791
3. Private institutions aided by the State	29	31
4. Private institutions not aided by the State	67	68
5. Railway medical institutions ...	52	52
6. State-private institutions (for special departments of Government, e.g., the Police and special sections of the Public)... ...	22	27

Medical relief

The total number of patients in the State-public, local fund and private aided institutions was 10,623,920, as against 10,218,402 during the previous year. The number of in-door patients rose from 159,043 in 1926 to 170,966 in the year under review and that of out-patients from 10,059,359 to 10,452,954. Of the in-patients treated, 77,144 were cured, 31,280 were relieved, 17,214 were discharged for other reasons and 8,509 died. Four thousand six hundred and thirty-two beds were available for males and 3,717 for females as against 4,478 and 3,616, respectively, in the previous year. The principal diseases treated were malaria

and diseases of the digestive, generative and respiratory systems. Among the out-patients, the diseases most prevalent were those of the digestive system, injuries, malaria, syphilis, dysentery and all diseases of the respiratory system.

The total number of operations performed during the year was 428,749 as compared with 453,346 in the previous year. The number of major operations during the year under review was 33,363 as against 29,419 in the previous year. The ratio of deaths per cent to the total operated on was ·27 as against ·26 in the previous year.

Finance

The total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 62,30,727 and the total expenditure to Rs. 62,24,465 as compared with Rs. 58,92,977 and Rs. 58,81,613, respectively, in the previous year. The increase in the receipts and expenditure give an indication of the general increase in the volume of medical work.

Mental hospitals

274. The total number of insanes under treatment at the mental hospitals at Madras, Calicut and Waltair, during the year 1927, was 1,512 as against 1,385 in the previous year. The principal types of insanity, in their order of frequency, were mania, dementia, dementia praecox, delusional insanity, insanity due to cannabis indica, confusional insanity, melancholia and imbecility. The patients included 194 insane criminals. The total number of deaths in these hospitals decreased from 89 during the previous year to 80 in the year under review. The chief causes of death were diseases of the nervous system, tubercle of the lungs, other respiratory diseases, anaemia and debility. The mental hospitals were regularly inspected both by official and non-official visitors.

Finance

There was a rise in the total receipts, including those from paying patients, from Rs. 4,01,540, in 1926, to Rs. 4,69,301 in the year under review. This was due to an increase in the various items under receipt. The charges under establishment proper show an increase in all the three hospitals as compared with that of the previous year. The increase in the expenditure of the Mental Hospital, Madras, was due to increases in salary and allowances drawn by the staff. The increased charges

VITAL STATISTICS AND MEDICAL SERVICES

under diet were due to an increase in the population of the hospitals and higher tender rates for some of the important articles of diet in the mental hospitals at Madras and Calicut.

Medical education.

Medical College, Madras

275. The outstanding features of the year were the appointment to the Madras Medical College of (i) a professor of pharmacology, (ii) a lecturer on venereal diseases, and (iii) a lecturer on the diseases of the ear, nose and throat. The designation of the professorship of materia medica was changed to that of medical therapeutics. A hostel for the lady medical students of the college was opened during the year and an advisory committee was appointed in connexion with it.

There were 693 students on the rolls of the college as compared with 640 in the previous year. There was a steady increase in the number of the students studying in the various departments of the college during the past triennium. The total percentage of passes in all the examinations of the M.B., B.S. and L.M.S. courses was 48·8 as compared with 46·3 in the previous year.

Medical College, Vizagapatam

Two professors and eleven assistant professors were added to the staff during the year. There were 129 students on the rolls of the college as compared with 106 in the previous year. University examination results were not as encouraging as those in the previous year.

Medical schools

There were five Government medical schools working during the year: at Madras, Tanjore, Coimbatore, Madura and the Lady Willingdon Medical School for Women at Madras. The medical school at Madura was abolished with effect from the academic year 1928-29. The number of students studying in the various medical schools was 936 as compared with 958 in the previous year. Results in the final qualifying examinations were satisfactory and showed improvement over those of the previous year.

Pasteur Institute

276. The number of patients treated in the institute during the year was 394 as compared with 415 in the previous year. Of the total number of patients, 194 came from Coimbatore district.

Advice without treatment was given to 165 patients. The total number of persons treated at local centres, other than Coonoor, was 4,788 as compared with 4,373 in the previous year. Of the total number of 5,182 persons treated during the year, 12 died during treatment, 51 less than fifteen days after the completion of the treatment and 111 died more than fifteen days after the completion of the treatment; the percentage of deaths to patients treated was 0·71.

The total number of deaths from rabies during the year was 696 as compared with 488 in the previous year. Five hundred and sixty of these were registered in rural areas and 76 in municipal and rural towns.

The King Institute of Preventive Medicine

277. During the year under review, the King Institute of Preventive Medicine, which is situated at Guindy, continued to manufacture and distribute vaccine and lymph, to distribute bacterial vaccine and sera, to examine specimens and to test samples of food and water.

2,211,795 vaccine doses were issued during the year as compared with 2,323,521 in the previous year. There was an increase in the demand for cholera vaccine during the year due to a widespread epidemic of cholera and to the making of cholera vaccine a free supply to local bodies. The total output of the year was 727,000 c.c. which is eleven times that of last year's amount.

The total number of specimens examined in the institute showed a decline, from 29,377 in the previous year to 24,619 in the year under review. There was, however, an increase in the number of Wassermann tests carried out during the year under review.

The samples of foodstuffs were mostly hospital tenders and only a few were from private sources. The Madras Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1918, has not been brought into force and there was therefore no regular supply of samples of food for analysis.

The investigation units, attached to the institute, continued to perform valuable work in connexion with malaria surveys, a survey of the filariasis and other special investigations.

There was an increase in the number of samples of water examined during the year, especially under railway supplies. Experiments on filters were continued.

Health propaganda

278. Since its inception in 1923, the district health staff has been steadily increasing propaganda work. 91,827 lectures were delivered during the year in 41,089 centres to audiences aggregating nearly 6 millions. The fact that one-eighth of the total population of the Presidency has been reached by this means is an indication of the progress which has been achieved. A large proportion of the lectures were accompanied by lantern demonstrations. Advantage was taken of large gatherings, such as fairs and festivals, to deliver lectures.

National Health and Baby Week

279. Propaganda work was, as usual, intensified during the National Health and Baby Week. The week's campaign was carried on with the aid of lectures, leaflets, posters, lantern demonstrations, health dramas and health exhibitions.

SANITATION (1927)

[*The Thirty-eighth Annual Report of the Sanitary Engineer to Government and the Sixty-fourth Annual Report of the Director of Public Health for the year 1927*]

Municipalities Water-supply and drainage schemes

280. During the year under report, the execution of the water-supply scheme of Proddatur was sanctioned. Thirty-one out of 81 municipalities are now provided with protected water-supply. The execution of the Coimbatore, Periyakulam and Tuticorin water-supply schemes and of the Madura drainage scheme and improvements to the existing water-supply schemes in nine other municipalities were in progress. The opening of conservancy lanes in Kumbakōnam as a preliminary to the drainage scheme was also in progress. The priority list of water-supply and drainage schemes, drawn up in consultation with the Sanitary Engineer and arranged in the order of urgency and importance from the public health point of view, was

generally approved in September 1927. Numerous water-supply and drainage schemes were under investigation.

The total number of sanitary inspectors employed in the 80 municipalities of the Presidency, excluding Madras City, was 227 as compared with 204 in 1926. Orders were issued to all local bodies to replace unqualified men in their employment by duly qualified inspectors. Conservancy

The number of public latrines of all descriptions in municipal areas was 2,088 as compared with 1,920 in the previous year. Private latrines numbered 172,208 as compared with 170,949 in the previous year. Nearly 80 per cent of the private latrines were conserved by municipal agency. In spite of the attention of the municipal councils being drawn to the need for strict enforcement of the section in the Municipal Act, dealing with the subject of sanitation, it is regrettable to note that little or no progress can be reported.

According to the information furnished by municipalities, the total allotment on sanitation came to 32 per cent of their total income. The actual expenditure on conservancy was Rs. 3·57 lakhs and on improvements to water-supply Rs. 4·97 lakhs. Finance

281. A few schemes of water-supply and drainage were under investigation. Rural areas

Special sanitary arrangements were, as usual, made at important fairs and festivals on the advice and under the supervision of Public Health department, in regard to accommodation, water-supply, conservancy, food control and other factors which influence the comfort and safety of large crowds of people. As a result of improved control of the water-supply, conservancy and food supplies at pilgrimage centres, no outbreaks of epidemic disease occurred during the year, except in five instances. Fairs and festivals

282. The Cauvery-Mettur project area was constituted as a separate district with a Collector in charge, during the year. A staff consisting of a first-class health officer, six sanitary inspectors, six maistris and 85 menials were engaged in general conservancy work and 60 coolies were Cauvery-Mettur project

constantly employed in carrying out anti-malarial measures. A protective water-supply scheme was completed during the year. It is hoped that the sewage system will come into operation in the course of the next year.

VACCINATION (1927-28)

[*Annual Report on Vaccination in the Madras Presidency for the year 1927-28*; *Statistical Abstract for British India—Vital Statistics—Vaccination*]

General

283. The administration of vaccination in rural areas continued to be vested in taluk and union boards. With a view to ensure more centralized and efficient administration, the question of its transfer to the district boards will be taken up for consideration when the amendment to the Local Boards Act is undertaken.

Glycerine lymph was used throughout the Presidency during the year under report with most satisfactory results, the percentage of successes during the year being the highest ever recorded. The lymph is manufactured in the King Institute, Guindy. During the hot weather, when routine vaccination was suspended for a period of four months, the health staffs carried out the usual scrutiny of vital statistics and vaccination registers, and detection of unregistered deaths and births and unprotected cases. A large number of unregistered and unprotected cases were detected during the year. Vaccination is now compulsory in eight districts and portions of two other districts.

Operations

284. In spite of the efforts of the anti-vaccination campaigners in Tanjore district and in parts of other districts and municipalities, the total number of vaccination operations has again perceptibly increased. The total number of vaccination operations performed in districts during the year was 1,753,748 as compared with 1,718,604 in 1926-27. The total number of vaccinations performed in the 81 municipalities of the Presidency fell from 202,607 in the previous year,

to 190,478 in the year under report. Primary and secondary vaccinations increased by 25,037, whilst the number of re-vaccinations showed a decrease of 2,717. Fourteen towns recorded infantile vaccination rates below 50 per cent of the total births. The worst of these were Chidambaram, Vizianagram, Tiruppattūr and Nellore. A further increase of 1·1 per cent, in the already high percentage of success for primary and secondary vaccinations, is a clear indication of the continued high potency of the glycerine lymph issued by the King Institute, Guindy, and of the generally satisfactory work done by the vaccination staffs throughout the Presidency.

The total expenditure incurred on all vaccination establishments—Government, Local Fund, Municipal and Cantonment—was Rs. 6·11 lakhs as compared with Rs. 5·56 lakhs in the previous year. The average cost of each successful case was As. 6–8 as compared with As. 6–2 in the previous year. The slight increase in the cost of each case was partly due to the employment of additional health inspectors and vaccinators.

CHAPTER VII

INSTRUCTION

GENERAL SYSTEM OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

285. *Vide* pages 228 to 244 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

EDUCATION (1927–28)

[*Report of the Director of Public Instruction for the year 1927–28; Statistical Abstract for British India—Education*]

General

286. Three conferences were held during the year with a view to promote the exchange of views and to ascertain the opinions of officers of the Educational department and others interested in educational matters. There was a considerable increase in the number and strength of elementary and primary (European) schools for boys and girls. In pursuance of the policy of providing all school-less centres with a population of 500 and above with an elementary school, sanction was accorded during the year for the opening of 409 board elementary schools for boys, involving an annual recurring expenditure of over one lakh. A noteworthy feature, was the provision of subsidies for the opening of 500 new elementary schools for girls, this being the first subsidy for the purpose since 1921. As a step towards supplying the increasing demand for women teachers, 4 additional training schools for mistresses were opened.

Statistics

287. The number of public institutions rose from 50,941 in the previous year to 53,625 in the year under review, and their strength from

2,440,874 to 2,586,544. The increase represented 5·3 per cent in the number of schools and 6·0 per cent in their strength. There was a small decrease in the number of private institutions and in their strength. Taking public and private institutions together, the number of institutions increased by 2,430 and their strength by 137,484. The percentage of those under instruction to the whole population was 6·2 as compared with 6·0 in the previous year.

University and collegiate education

Madras University

288. With the establishment of new departments, and the reorganization of the existing ones, the University's activities for the promotion of advanced studies and research in various branches of learning were considerably strengthened and enlarged during the year. The University Institute of Oriental Languages began work in September 1927. The departments of Indian Philosophy and Mathematics also commenced work.

The proposal to appoint a commission of inspection was sanctioned before the close of the year.

The report of the Committee of the Senate regarding physical training was adopted, and funds sanctioned towards putting the scheme into operation.

The scheme of compulsory medical inspection was introduced during the year and arrangements, made by the colleges to give effect to the scheme, were approved of by the Syndicate.

The sanctioned strength of the battalion of the University Training Corps was maintained and the continued popularity of the corps was evinced by the fact that more than three times the required number of men volunteered for enlistment.

During the year under review, Parts II—IV of Volume II of the Tamil Lexicon were published.

Andhra University

At the meeting held in December 1927, the Senate adopted the resolution that the Academic Council may be requested to consider the desirability of having separate courses of study for women as alternative to the present courses. A committee was appointed for this purpose.

The Academic Council adopted the resolutions urging that schemes for compulsory physical

training and regular medical inspection of all students be introduced in all affiliated colleges.

The location of the headquarters of the Andhra University has not been settled yet.

Statistics

The number of first-grade colleges for men continued to be the same (24), but their strength rose from 10,108 to 10,656 in the year under review. There was no increase in the number of second-grade colleges for men. Their strength, however, slightly increased. The total number of students in the arts colleges for men rose from 11,842 to 12,427.

The number of professional colleges for men remained the same. Their strength increased from 2,177 to 2,260.

Secondary education

289. The number of public secondary schools for Indian boys fell from 528 to 526. Two new secondary schools were opened, two schools were closed and two others were reduced to the primary grade. The number of girls reading in these schools was 2,891 as compared with 2,765 in the previous year. The number of candidates who sat for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination rose from 15,587 to 17,171. The inclusion, in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate scheme, of Hindi and Indian music, as subjects in group C, forms a special feature. Physical education received greater attention.

The total expenditure on secondary schools rose from Rs. 71·38 lakhs to Rs. 74·36 lakhs, of which public funds contributed 32 per cent and 54 per cent was contributed by fees. The average cost of educating a pupil was Rs. 44-5-0 as compared with Rs. 43-11-0 in the previous year. The average fee paid by each pupil was 25-3-0.

Elementary education

290. The number of public elementary schools for boys increased from 46,378 to 48,407, and their strength from 1,985,617 to 2,094,138 or by 5·5 per cent. The percentage of male pupils to the total male population for the Presidency was 8·7 as against 8·2 in the previous year. The total number of teachers employed in public schools rose from 83,280 to 87,978, while the number of trained men among them increased from 39,913 to 43,002. The

number of school buildings constructed during the year for accommodating elementary schools was 844, of which 242 were for schools under public management.

Four hundred and nine board elementary schools for boys, involving an annual recurring expenditure of Rs. 1,17,372, were provided for school-less centres with a population of 500 and over. Funds were also placed at the disposal of district educational councils for according supplemental admission to aid to 145 new aided elementary schools for boys to be opened in school-less centres.

The rates of teaching grants were revised, except in the case of lower elementary grade untrained teachers. A sum of Rs. 5·99 lakhs was placed at the disposal of the district educational councils to meet the extra cost on account of revision. Three more municipalities proposed the introduction of compulsion for all boys of school-age and their proposals were accepted.

Special education

291. The total number of Government training schools for masters, inclusive of the sessional schools in the Agency tracts, was 60 as in the previous year. There was an increase in the number of students undergoing training from 6,467 to 7,290. Of these, 1,029 were for the secondary grade and 6,261 for the elementary grade. Increased facilities were provided by the opening of additional training classes in the existing training schools. There was no increase in the number of aided training schools but the number who underwent training increased slightly. The schools of engineering at Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam were continued during the year. Special classes for practical training in subjects like spinning, weaving and carpentry, etc., were sanctioned in 23 institutions.

Female education

292. The number of schools, solely intended for Indian girls, rose from 3,567 to 4,273 and their strength from 246,864 to 280,200. During the year under review, there were 585,339 girls attending all grades of institutions as against 534,640 on the 31st March 1927. Though the number of arts

colleges for women remained the same, the strength in them increased from 416 to 421. The number of women students reading in arts colleges for men increased from 72 to 84, while those in the medical colleges rose from 55 to 62. There was no increase in the number of secondary schools for girls but a slight increase in the number of pupils reading in them. The number of elementary schools for girls rose from 3,388 to 4,044 and their strength from 228,348 to 260,390. The number of schools closed during the year was 164 and the number opened 820. The number of girls reading in boys' schools increased from 282,317 to 302,080. With a view to improve the condition of girls' education, the opening of 500 new elementary schools, in school-less centres, with a population of 2,000 and above having no girls' schools, was sanctioned. The number of Government training schools for women rose from 16 to 20. Four new Government training schools were opened at Hospet, Vellore, Rāmnād and Erode. A new training school was also opened at Madura under municipal management. The number of aided training schools increased from 19 to 20. The total number of training schools for women under various managements rose from 35 to 41 and the number under training from 1,827 to 1,973.

European education

293. The number of European institutions fell from 87 to 85. There was also a slight fall in the strength of the schools from 10,390 to 10,363. The number of students attending arts and professional colleges was 116 as against 123 for the previous year, and the number of teachers, employed by European schools, 734 as against 735. Five hundred and thirty-two of these teachers were trained and 64 certified, but untrained. There were 158 candidates examined for the European High School Examination and 266 for the Middle School. Of these 94 and 126, respectively passed.

Education of Muhammadans

294. The number of public institutions specially intended for Muhammadans increased from 3,265 to 3,464 and their strength from 187,463 to 202,227. There was a slight decline in the number of private institutions and in their strength. There

was an increase in the number of Muhammadan students reading in arts colleges from 351 to 396. The number of Muhammadan students reading in professional colleges rose from 73 to 78. The total number of Muhammadan pupils in secondary schools for Indians rose from 9,938 to 10,158. The total number of public elementary schools intended for Mappillas increased from 1,239 to 1,365 and their strength from 86,315 to 96,794. There was a slight decrease in the number of private schools and in their strength.

Education of Adi-Dravidas, Adi-Andhras and other backward classes

295. The number of public institutions chiefly intended for Ādi-Drāvidas and Ādi-Āndhras rose from 10,035 to 10,429 and their strength from 286,556 to 302,804. The number of pupils belonging to depressed classes, admitted into schools under public management, not specially intended for them (excluding the Agency), increased by 886. In the Agency tracts, the number of pupils increased from 1,395 to 1,777. The Labour department has undertaken to provide special facilities for the spread of education among the depressed classes. The total number of pupils belonging to aboriginal tribes under instruction in all classes of institutions in the Presidency was 22,596 as compared with 20,100 in the previous year. The number of pupils belonging to criminal tribes under instruction was 15,325, as compared with 13,758 in the previous year. There were 18 schools exclusively for the Chenchus in the Kurnool district and 74 schools for the hill tribes in the Nilgiris.

Deaf and dumb schools

The Deaf and Dumb schools at Madras showed an increase in the number of pupils reading in them. The number of pupils in the Deaf and Dumb school at Palamcottah, under Missionary management, remained the same.

Miscellaneous

296 .Owing to the help rendered by a number of honorary workers in the province and to the encouragement and co-operation extended by the public, the scout movement has taken a distinct step forward. Scouting has spread to every corner of the province. During the year under report, the number of girl guides rose from 2,371 to 2,577 and a further considerable increase is expected

during the coming year. Some progress has been made in respect of physical education during the year.

Finance

297. The total expenditure on education rose during the year, from Rs. 452·72 lakhs to Rs. 478·91 lakhs. The increase was contributed by both public and private funds. The proportion which public and private funds bore to the total expenditure was 60 and 40 per cent, respectively, as against 59 and 41 per cent in the previous year. The total direct expenditure rose from Rs. 340·07 lakhs to Rs. 362·85 lakhs. The increase was almost entirely contributed by public funds. The amount spent on schools, managed by local bodies, showed an increase of Rs. 11 lakhs. Indirect expenditure increased from Rs. 112·66 lakhs to Rs. 116·06 lakhs, the increase being mainly under boarding charges. There was a large increase in the provincial subsidies paid to local bodies and grants-in-aid paid to schools under private management. Provincial subsidies to local bodies, inclusive of the amounts placed at the disposal of the district educational councils and the Registrar-General of Panchayats for elementary education, rose by Rs. 19·72 lakhs to Rs. 128·65 lakhs.

GOVERNMENT EXAMINATIONS

[*Commissioner's Report for the year 1927–28*]

General

298. Fourteen examinations were held during the year as against 13 in the previous year. The total number of candidates registered for all examinations, held at 674 centres, was 38,501 of whom 36,692 were actually examined. The increase was largely in the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate, Technical and Special Test examinations. Particulars relating to each examination are given in the statement below.

Number.	Name of examination.	Number of candidates registered.	Number of candidates examined.	Number of centres.
1	Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Public Examination	17,378	17,171	357
2	Special Examination under the Secondary School-Leaving Certificate Board for the benefit of teachers who have failed in the Matriculation or the Upper Secondary Examination and are desirous of being admitted for Secondary Grade Training.	10	8	6
3	Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination	43	43	19
4	Training School-Leaving Certificate Examination	8,693	8,247	106
5	Deputy Inspectors' Test Examination ...	162	128	19
6	Government Technical Examinations ..	9,103	8,417	50
7	Public Examination at the end of the Advanced Course of Studies in Sanskrit Schools	227	222	15
8	Special Test Examinations, June	1,061	842	27
	Do. December ...	1,225	1,024	27
9	Technical Teachers' Certificate Examination	108	105	24
10	European School Examinations	429	423	20
11	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for men) ...	27	27	1
12	Examination for Teachers' Certificates in Physical Training (for women) ...	11	11	1
13	Pandits' Training Certificate Examination.	23	23	1
14	Examination for the award of Certificates of competency to persons qualified to teach in schools for physically defective (blind and deaf-mute) children	1	1	1
	Total ...	38,501	36,692	674

Miscellaneous

The inclusion of Hindi as a subject under group "C" of the scheme, for the award of Secondary School-Leaving Certificates, was approved in 1927. Indian music was also recognized as a subject of instruction under group "C" of the scheme. The candidates for the Secondary School-Leaving Certificates included eight pupils who were dependents or children of Indian soldiers and 125 pupils belonging to the depressed classes. Nineteen schools against nine last year used the vernacular as the medium of instruction and examination in non-language subjects. Of the 43 candidates who appeared for the Women's Secondary Grade Final Examination, 29 were Indian Christians.

LAWRENCE MEMORIAL SCHOOL (1927-28)

Pupils

299. The school continued to make satisfactory progress during the year, particularly as regards examination results and the general tone of the school. His Excellency the Viceroy was one of the distinguished visitors to the school during the year. The total number of pupils on the rolls on 31st March 1928 was 520 (316 boys, 194 girls and 10 lady students undergoing training as teachers). There were, in addition, 305 children registered and awaiting admission. Twelve boys entered for the ten vacancies allotted for the Royal Engineers at Chepstow, and all passed. All the four boys who appeared for the Apprentice Mechanic Branch of the Royal Air Force at Halton also passed. All the seventeen candidates who appeared from the school for the Senior and Junior Cambridge examinations were successful, and many obtained distinctions. Two pupils from the school passed the European High School Examination and thirteen the Middle School Examination.

Physical and military training

There were 25 members on the rolls of the detachment of the Auxiliary Force and 150 cadets. A shooting club was formed for the cadets. Teams were entered for the British Empire Challenge Shooting Competition with much better results than in the previous year. Cricket, hockey and football are played by the boys, while the girls play tennis, hockey, badminton and other games and continue to have a company of girl guides and a flock of blue birds.

The health of the school was satisfactory during the year.

Training school

Five students appeared for the final examination for European teachers and all were successful, four gaining first classes. All of them have secured appointments as assistant teachers in recognized European schools.

The general school account showed an income of Rs. 3·56 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 3·32 lakhs, leaving a balance of Rs. ·24 lakh.

LITERATURE AND THE PRESS (1927-28)

[*Statistical Abstract for British India—Printing Presses and Publications*]

General

300. This section contains a brief discussion of the statistics furnished by certain libraries and the Madras Record Office and notes on the public press and registration of books.

Connemara Public Library

301. The use made of this library by the public continued to increase. The number of visitors rose from 36,402, in 1926-27 to 38,901 in the year under review. The total number of volumes consulted was 41,500. Five hundred and twenty-three standard works in 558 volumes were added to the library, of which 262 were purchased and 261 were presentations. A comprehensive catalogue of all the periodical publications in the library was compiled during the year.

University Library

302. The total number of readers during the year was 46,842 as against 29,610 in the previous year. 70,914 volumes were consulted during the year as against 42,332 in the previous year.

Oriental Manuscripts Library

303. The number of manuscripts acquired during the year was 493, as against 202 in the previous year. Nearly 300 Telugu manuscripts were presented to the library. There were 4,133 visitors consulting 7,001 manuscripts and books, during the year under review, as against 3,637 visitors who consulted 4,182 manuscripts and books in the previous year. Some rare manuscripts and records were exhibited in the Library Exhibition, held in December 1927, in connexion with the session of the "All-India Libraries' Conference." Descriptive triennial catalogues of Sanskrit, Tamil and Telugu manuscripts were published as usual. Volume I of the Brahmasidhi of Mandanamisra was completed.

Educational associations and reading rooms

304. The number of educational associations and reading rooms continued to increase. During the year under review, there were 2,154 teachers' associations and 111 reading rooms and literary societies as compared with 2,086 teachers' associations and 97 reading rooms and literary societies in the previous year.

305. Nearly 9,300 requisitions for papers and for information were received from the Secretariat, the Board of Revenue and other offices. Twenty-three of these involved prolonged search among the records.

Madras Record Office (1927-28)

Progress was made in repairing old volumes up to 1765. Eighty-six volumes containing 20,209 pages were mended during the year. Other work during the year included listing and indexing. Four research scholars were permitted to have access to the records. Twenty references from revenue officers of districts were disposed off during the year.

Publications

The "Diary and Consultation Book" for 1703 and the volumes of "Despatches from England" for the years 1706—10, 1710—13, 1713–14, 1715—18 and 1717—21 were issued during the year. The "Diary and Consultation Books" for the years 1704 and 1705 and volumes of "Despatches from England" for 1721—24 were struck off and will issue shortly. A large part of the volume of "Despatches from England" for 1686—92 was struck off. Proofs of the volumes of "Despatches to England" for 1711—14, 1714—18 and "Despatches from England," 1724—27, "Diary and Consultation Book" for 1706 and "Letters from Fort St. George" for 1703 and 1704 were received during the year. The volumes of "Diary and Consultation Books" for the years 1709 and 1710 were sent to press. Manuscripts of volumes of "Diary and Consultation Books" for the years 1707 and 1708 and "Despatches to England" for 1719—27 are with the press. As regards the Baramahal Records, the volume "Justice" was issued during the year, and the next volume "Expenses" is in the press. The translation of Ānanda Ranga Pillai's Diary was nearly completed.

Periodicals (1927) Statistics

306. During the year 1927, 302 newspapers were actually published in the Presidency, of which 101 appeared in the Madras City and the balance in the mufassal. Ten newspapers were published in the French Settlements of Pondicherry and Karikal. Fifty-seven newspapers were published in English, 113 in Tamil, 59 in Telugu, 12 in Malayalam, 9 in Kanarese, 6 in Urdu, 3 in

Oriya, 2 in Hindi, 1 in Konkani and 40 were bi-lingual or tri-lingual.

Tone of the press

The general tone of the press showed little change. The following topics formed the subjects of criticism and often of keen controversy:—

The appointment of the Statutory Commission, the public utterances of His Excellency the Viceroy; the decision of the Gauhati Congress regarding acceptance of office; the Imperial budget; the Parliamentary Indian Navy Bill; Railway administration; the situation in China at the beginning of the year; the position of Indians in the Colonies and Miss Mayo's "Mother India." The partial failure of the north-east monsoon produced the usual forebodings of wholesale famine. The acquittal of Philip Spratt was the occasion for a leading article on the law of sedition from the "Swarajya." The attitude of the Madras City Police on the occasion of the shooting affray during the Burma Oil Company riots was the subject of mild censure. The riots at Koilkuntla in Kurnool district offered an opportunity for strong criticism. The Madras Corporation received a certain amount of attention from the press.

Registration of Books (1927-28)

307. During the year, 4,042 books and 991 periodicals were registered as against 3,558 books and 919 periodicals in the previous year. The general increase was shared in by most of the subjects, including religion and philosophy, which, together, still represented the greatest activity. Works on science and mathematics continued to increase. There was a fall in drama and fiction. Law and politics showed some increase. Of the total number of publications registered, 1,140 were in the English language, 3,292 were in vernaculars spoken in the province and 145 in the Indian classical languages.

The style and character of the publications continued to progress on healthy lines and their tone was generally good.

LITERARY SOCIETIES

308. *Vide* pages 252 to 254 of the Report on the Administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921-22.

ARTS AND SCIENCES (1927-28)

Government Museum

309. Progress was made in all sections during the year. The following are some of the important activities of the Government Museum.

An account of the temple rituals and social customs of the Vishnavite Brahmans was completed and work on the Kallars was commenced. Steps were taken to improve the section of musical instruments, so as to make them fully representative of South India. The text of the passages of gramophone records of languages and dialects of the Madras Presidency was published during the year. An illustrated and descriptive account of Buddhist sculpture, removed from Goli, Guntūr district, was nearly completed. The manuscript catalogue of bronze images was partly revised. A thorough reorganization of the Buddhist and Jain galleries was effected during the year.

The cataloguing of silver coins was proceeded with. The treasure trove coins, collected before April 1927, were advertised for sale and were partly sold. The account of the littoral fauna of Krusadai island was published. A number of pictures were made for the zoological gallery. Rearrangement of the crustacea and insecta was started. Botanical specimens from different parts of the province were sent to the Kew Gardens for examination and report.

Visitors

There was a further increase of visitors during the year under report. The Dwadasi and Kannu-Pongal festivals as usual attracted large crowds.

Theatre

The Museum Theatre was in great demand and was used on 41 occasions as against 29 in the previous year. The Madras Dramatic Society contributed seven performances and the Madras

Musical Association, three concerts, exclusive of rehearsals.

Meteorology (1927-28)

310. The chief work of the Madras Meteorological Office continued to be the publication of the Daily Weather Report. The report was based on observations taken at 25 stations in the Presidency.

Astronomy

Kodaikānal Observatory

311. The Kodaikānal Observatory is devoted mainly to solar research work but complete meteorological and seismometric records are also maintained. During the year 1927, the record of solar activity was continued as in former years.

The collection of spectroheliograms from foreign observatories, for those days on which records could not be obtained at Kodaikānal, was continued as part of the programme of the International Astronomical Union and the combined data were taken into consideration in the work of compilation and discussion of statistics relating to prominence phenomena.

Photoheliograms were obtained on 336 days, spectroheliograms of the sun's disc in calcium light were obtained on 333 days, in hydrogen light on 328 days, and of prominences on the limb on 328 days.

The sun in 1927 failed to show any marked increase in activity over the year 1926. Spot numbers showed an increase of only 7 per cent, prominence numbers an increase of 7 per cent, while prominence areas showed a decrease of 15 per cent. Prominences, seen on the disc by absorption, showed a decrease of 20 per cent.

The mean daily numbers of sunspots visible during 1927 was 4·8 in the mean latitude 15°. Prominence activity in high latitudes decreased considerably during the second half of the year in accordance with the usual progress of the sunspot cycle.

A daylight comet of extraordinary brilliance was observed near the sun from December 15th to 18th.

Madras Observatory

The only astronomical observations made at the Madras Observatory are those necessary for the maintenance of an accurate time service for the whole of India. The time gun at Fort St. George

failed on 10 occasions out of 703, giving a percentage of success of 98·6. The failures were mostly due to faults in the firing apparatus or to contacts on the overhead line from the observatory to the firing apparatus. The gun was out of action on 27 occasions during the year owing to shortage of ammunition and other causes. The time ball at the harbour dropped correctly at 1 p.m. on all days except three, when it dropped at 2 p.m. The 16-hours roll of time signals was sent daily to the Central Telegraph Office for distribution as usual through the entire Indian Telegraph system. Wireless time signals broadcasted from Calcutta and some of the important European stations, such as Bordeaux, Nauen and Rugby, were recorded mainly for purposes of comparison with the local time determinations.

CHAPTER VIII

ARCHÆOLOGY AND EPIGRAPHY (1927-28)

Archæology

312. A sum of Rs. 24,512 was spent during the year on the conservation of ancient monuments and on the upkeep of roads and pathways connected with them. The heaviest expenditure was incurred at the Hampi Ruins, Seven Pagodas, the Fort at Masulipatam, the Gooty Fort in the Anantapur district and the three ruined Hindu temples at Danayakankōttai in the Coimbatore district. These monuments are now in good repair and most of them are provided with roads and pathways for the benefit of visitors.

Excavations of considerable archæological importance were conducted at Nāgārjunikonda in the Guntūr district. Over fifty splendid specimens of Buddhist art of the Amarāvati school, forty-four lead coins of the Āndhra period, some iron implements, pottery and stucco ornaments were discovered.

Epigraphy

313. Four hundred and thirty-four epigraphs including nine copper-plate inscriptions were examined and the epigraphical survey of the Kalyāndrug taluk in the Anantapur district was completed. Of the copper-plate inscriptions, four belong to the Keladi chiefs and the dates range between the Saka years 1550 and 1565 (A.D. 1628 to 1643). One of these is dated in the Saka year 1103 (A.D. 1181) and belongs to the Ganga king, Devendravarman, and another, dated in the Saka year 1685 (A.D. 1763), to the Mysore chief Krishnarāya Vodeya. Of the remaining plates, two came from Sāndūr; one ascribes itself to the reign of the Vijayanagara king, Krishnarāya, but is dated in the Saka year 1210 (A.D. 1288); the other records the confirmation of the boundaries of Sāndūr by Sir Thomas Munro. The remaining plate comes from the Kalyāndrug

taluk of the Anantapur district and registers the sale of the hereditary office of karanikam (village accountant).

The oldest inscriptions in the collection are the labels engraved on stone-beds lying in the three caverns on the Aranattar hill at Pugalūr near Karūr in the Trichinopoly district. They are identical with the cave inscriptions which were discovered in the Tinnevelly and Madura districts many years ago, but have not yet been finally deciphered. They may be ascribed to the 2nd or 3rd century.

The votive inscriptions in the temple of Sarasvati at Kuttanūr in the Tanjore district was another interesting record examined during the year. Another noteworthy record of the year comes from Tiruppālaikkudi in the Rāmnād district. It is dated in the third year of the reign of Māravarman Sundara-Pāndya I.

The Kanarese inscriptions, copied in the year, are in the South Kanara and the Anantapur districts and belong mostly to the Tuluva and the Karnata kings of the Vijayanagara Dynasty. They bring to light the names of several governors of the outlying provinces of Vijayanagara.

One of the Chalukyan inscriptions is dated in the Chalukya-Vikrama year 33 and belongs to the reign of Bhuvanaikamalla. It speaks of a Saiva teacher, Ariya-Pandita, who belonged to Sivapuram, which is known as one of the eight approaches to Srisailam. A record from Ammunaje in the South Kanara district furnishes the name of a hitherto unknown Alupa ruler, Kumara-Pāndya Jayasingadēva, and may be placed in the 11th or 12th century A.D.

CHAPTER IX

MISCELLANEOUS

ECCLESIASTICAL JURISDICTION

314. *Vide* pages 259 to 262 of the Report on the administration of the Madras Presidency for the year 1921–22.

ECCLESIASTICAL (1927–28)

Church of England

315. At the end of the year, there were 278 clerks in Holy Orders officiating under the licence of the Bishop of Madras. Of these clergymen, 107 were officiating under the episcopal charge of the Bishop in Tinnevelly and Madura and 84 under the Bishop of Dornakal. Five chaplains were granted leave out of India during the course of the year ; and the vacancy caused by the retirement of a senior chaplain on the establishment was filled up by a chaplain recruited in England. The Bishop went on leave for seven and a half months and handed over charge of the diocese to his Commissary, the Ven'ble the Archdeacon of Madras.

During the year under review, one Indian and one European were ordained priests by the Bishop of Madras, while the Bishop of Tinnevelly and Madura ordained eight priests, all of whom were Indians, and the Most Rev. the Metropolitan ordained on behalf of the Bishop of Madras one European deacon. Three clergymen received licences to officiate during the year either as chaplains, English missionaries or Indian pastors. No churches were consecrated during the year, but the new Railway church at Lallaguda, Secunderabad, was licensed for holding divine service. No cemeteries were consecrated during the year.

Alms and other offerings made through the clergymen ministering to English congregations during the year amounted to Rs. 1,92,392.

Church of Scotland

316. The establishment of the Church of Scotland consisted of the Presidency Senior Chaplain at Madras, one chaplain at Bangalore and one chaplain at Secunderabad and Trimulgherry, who was attached to the first Battalion, the Gordon Highlanders and in charge of the Civil Chaplaincy of St. Andrew's Church, Secunderabad.

STATIONERY (1927-28)

Opening balance

317. The value of stock in the possession of the Superintendent of Stationery, at the beginning of the year 1927-28, was Rs. 6,78,206 (English stores Rs. 4,94,001 and Indian stores Rs. 1,84,205), against Rs. 7,82,239 (English stores Rs. 4,57,445 and Indian stores Rs. 3,24,794) in 1926-27.

Receipts

The total value of the stores received during the year was Rs. 10,08,171 (English stores Rs. 5,77,646 and Indian stores Rs. 4,30,525), against Rs. 10,47,550 (English stores Rs. 6,96,425 and Indian stores Rs. 3,51,125) in 1926-27.

Issues

The total value of the issues during the year amounted to Rs. 11,34,720 (English stores Rs. 6,81,078 and Indian Stores Rs. 4,53,642), against Rs. 11,51,583 (English stores Rs. 6,59,869 and Indian stores Rs. 4,91,714) in 1926-27.

Local funds

The value of stationery debited to Local Funds, etc., and of stationery, issued on payment during the year, amounted to Rs. 34,899 against Rs. 25,181 in 1926-27.

Closing balance

The value of the closing balance of stores at the end of the year was Rs. 5,51,657 (English stores Rs. 3,90,569 and Indian stores Rs. 1,61,088), against Rs. 6,78,206 (English stores Rs. 4,94,001 and Indian stores Rs. 1,84,205) in 1926-27.

GOVERNMENT PRESS (1927–28)

Finance

318. The net receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 2,51,880 as compared with Rs. 2,16,936 in the previous year. The increase was due to the transfer of credit on account of sale of unserviceable plant from the Depreciation Fund Deposit account and to recoveries on account of types manufactured in 1926–27 for renewal and replacement. The net expenditure amounted to Rs. 8,59,796, against Rs. 8,58,919 in the previous year.

Publications

319. Acts and books to the stock value of Rs. 29,310 were added during the year and sales including those of the commission agents amounted to Rs. 24,154. The sales effected through agents amounted to Rs. 4,432, against Rs. 5,399 in the previous year. The value of repealed Acts and obsolete publications written off during the year was Rs. 2,589, while free issues amounted to Rs. 56,356, against Rs. 35,233 in the previous year; the increase being due to the fact that expensive publications were distributed during the year. The total number of copies supplied free was 474,766 including 37,636 copies of proceedings placed on the "Editors' Table."

Printing and binding

320. The work charges in respect of printing and binding amounted to Rs. 8,94,060, the cost of paper and binding materials to Rs. 1,89,648 and the cost of maps, stereos and blocks to Rs. 15,622.

Miscellaneous

321. The production of types, mono leads and rules, materials and plates in the type-foundry during the year was 61,984 lb. The expenditure on account of the supply of and repairs to rubber stamps amounted to Rs. 5,242.

The stock-taking of plant for the quinquennium ending 31st March 1927 was completed during the year and new ledgers were opened with the actual stock figures on 1st April 1927. The total value of plant as per stock-taking on 1st April 1927 amounted to Rs. 14,35,524, against a book value of Rs. 14,74,617, the decrease being mostly accounted for by depreciation of stereo, electro and linotype metal. Plant to the value of Rs. 81,740 was added against Rs. 1,78,709 in 1926–27. The

book value of the plant, after deducting depreciation at the close of the year, was Rs. 13,66,876.

The closing balance of the stock of stores was Rs. 1,77,111, against Rs. 1,56,642 in the previous year, the increase being due to the large stock of paper on hand at the end of the year. Printing bills on account of Government work executed at private presses passed during the year amounted to Rs. 3,097, against Rs. 18,750 in the previous year, the decrease being due to the fact that the Legislative electoral rolls were not printed. The value of bills checked for private bodies rose from Rs. 40,355 to Rs. 43,263, the increase being due to the scrutiny of a larger number of printing bills of the Andhra University. The number of forms and covers despatched during the year was 140 millions.

General

322. The pay of the post of Superintendent was increased with effect from 1st April 1927. A scheme was sanctioned for the training of Indians in printing in order that they might qualify for superior posts in the press and four apprentices were selected for training. The revival of the *Registration Gazette* in its monthly form was sanctioned and the first issue was made in October 1927. The issue of a new district gazette, the *Mettur District Gazette*, was sanctioned and the first issue was in March 1928. The remodelling of the Penitentiary for the establishment of a well-equipped and up-to-date prison press was sanctioned during the year.

THE CHEMICAL EXAMINER'S DEPARTMENT (1927)

[*Annual Report of the Chemical Examiner's Department; Statistical Abstract for British India—Medico-legal Investigations*]

General

323. The work of the department during the year under review showed a marked increase over that of the previous years. The total number of analyses performed was 5,476 as compared with 4,637 in the previous year. The increase in the

year under review was general, but more marked in medico-legal analyses, especially in the stain cases.

Medico-legal analyses

Human poisoning

324. Two hundred and fifty-two cases of suspected human poisoning were investigated and poison was detected in 116 cases. Mercury was found in 15 cases, arsenic in 9 cases, arsenic and mercury together in 8 cases, opium in 19 cases, and dhatura in 12 cases. The unusual poisons detected were veronal, citrinellus colocynthus and oduvan.

Animal poisoning

Fifty-four cases of animal poisoning were investigated as compared with 41 in the previous year. The most common animal poisons were arsenic and yellow oleander. An unusual poison used was picrotoxin.

Stain cases

There were 618 stain cases involving the examination of 2,800 articles, as against 545 cases with 2,231 articles in 1926. These figures appear to indicate an increased activity on the part of the police and a more systematic and routine indent on the aid of the Chemical Examiner.

General analyses

325. The total number of articles examined were 755 as against 640 in 1926. Out of these, 584 articles were examined for the Customs department, one for the military, two for municipalities, 75 for the several departments of the local Government, and 93 for private parties. An interesting abnormality was found in the estimation of mechanical wood pulp in samples of paper. A series of experiments were conducted in this connexion.

CHARITABLE INSTITUTIONS (1927–28)

Institutions

326. There were 3,516 charitable institutions in the Presidency with an income of Rs. 23,74,215, together with 20 muras of rice and 85 bags of paddy. Of these institutions, 2,235 were maintained entirely by endowments of land and money and by subscriptions and donations from the general public, the total receipts amounting to Rs. 12·55 lakhs. Two hundred and ninety-five

institutions were supported by Government at a cost of Rs. 2·5 lakhs and 218 were maintained partly by Government and partly by the public at a cost of Rs. 4·39 lakhs. The maintenance of the remaining 768 institutions, costing Rs. 4·28 lakhs, devolved wholly or in part on local bodies.

Purpose of institutions

The purpose served by 2,171 of the institutions was the relief of travellers. Of these, 1,092 were for Hindus, 54 for Muhammadans, 2 for Europeans and East Indians and 1,023 were for all communities. Five hundred and forty institutions were for the relief of Brahmans, and these were almost entirely supported by the general public. The number of institutions intended for the relief of paupers was 641, while the total number for orphans, the blind, the deaf and lepers was only 31. The aggregate number of persons aided during the year by all the charitable institutions is reported to be 14,218,208.

Triplicane Langarkhana

327. The receipts of the Triplicane Langarkhana, including an opening balance of Rs. 66-0-8, amounted to Rs. 5,090-12-8 as against Rs. 5,258-5-4 in the previous year. The daily average number of paupers who received help from the institution was 176·1 as against 181·5 in the previous year.

Monegar Choultry

328. There were 44 admissions in the year under review as against 86 in the previous year. The fall in the number of admissions is due to the decision of the Board of Directors fixing the maximum number of inmates in the choultry at 60. The average daily number of inmates was 71·7 as against 64·05 in the previous year and the average daily cost of diet per pauper was As. 3-5 as against As. 3-6 in the previous year. The total receipts, including the opening balance in the bank, amounted to Rs. 13,798. The total expenditure was Rs. 11,388.

Raja of Venkatagiri Choultry

329. The average daily number of outdoor paupers was 145·09 as against 144·58 in the previous year. The total receipts, including the opening balance in the Imperial Bank of India, were Rs. 5,680 as compared with Rs. 4,504 in the previous year. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 4,842 as compared with Rs. 4,000 in the previous year.

The cost of rice for outdoor paupers in the year under review was Rs. 3,708 as against Rs. 3,922 in the previous year.

COMMUNAL REPRESENTATION IN THE SERVICE OF GOVERNMENT (1927-28)

330. The number of Government servants from each community, employed in the service of Government, on the 1st April 1928, is shown in the following table :—

Community.	Gazetted officers in permanent appointment.	Non-gazetted officers in permanent appointments on a pay of		
		Rs. 100 and over.	Rs. 35 and upwards but below Rs. 100.	Less than Rs. 35.
Brahmans	612	3,770	10,010	1,145
Non-Brahman Hindus ...	311	2,062	7,425	34,176
Depressed classes	...	5	71	1,349
Muhammadans	70	343	1,717	11,037
Non-Asiatics and Anglo-Indians	532	504	105	35
Indian Christians	129	522	1,201	2,223
Others	11	12	23	341

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